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Cabinet to review bond market crisis

JOSE ROSENFELD

FINANCE Minister Avraham Shohat yesterday continued the government's efforts to calm nervous provident fund savers and encourage them not to bolt the funds.

At today's cabinet session, Shohat will review recent economic developments, including the bond market crisis that has been precipitated by the massive flight from provident funds.

Shohat said he is not an investment adviser and will therefore refrain from telling the public how to act. However, he warned that people should carefully consider jumping from provident funds to short-term savings, since they will not be able to go back to the provident funds.

Provident funds should be seen as a long-term savings program and not as a liquid bank account, explained Shohat. He added that despite their negative yields last year, provident funds gave a real annual return of 3 percent annually in the past six years.

Asked whether he had provident fund savings, Shohat said "I have and I'm not touching them."

State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat refused to reveal on Friday, whether her office is investigating the provident fund crash. "We check all the subjects up for consideration and we decide according to priority and we are usually forbidden to reveal anything [about ongoing investigations]," she said.

Regarding the stock market, which has fallen to the lows of last year's slump, Shohat said there was a contradiction between the capital market's situation and the economy's positive performance. "In the end, the economy will have a positive influence on the capital market," he said.

Shohat revealed that the government will not introduce a national pension law as a means to rescue pension funds from their large accumulated actuarial deficits. But he said the government will act to protect the insured.

Shohat explained that the significant obligations the government has taken upon itself through the National Health Insurance Law as well as the heavy tax burden make a national pension law an unrealistic option.

The Fogel Report on pension reform recommended increasing both employer and employee contributions to ensure that together with government assistance the pension funds' actuarial balance would be restored. Based on Shohat's statement, it is now clear that no such changes will take place.

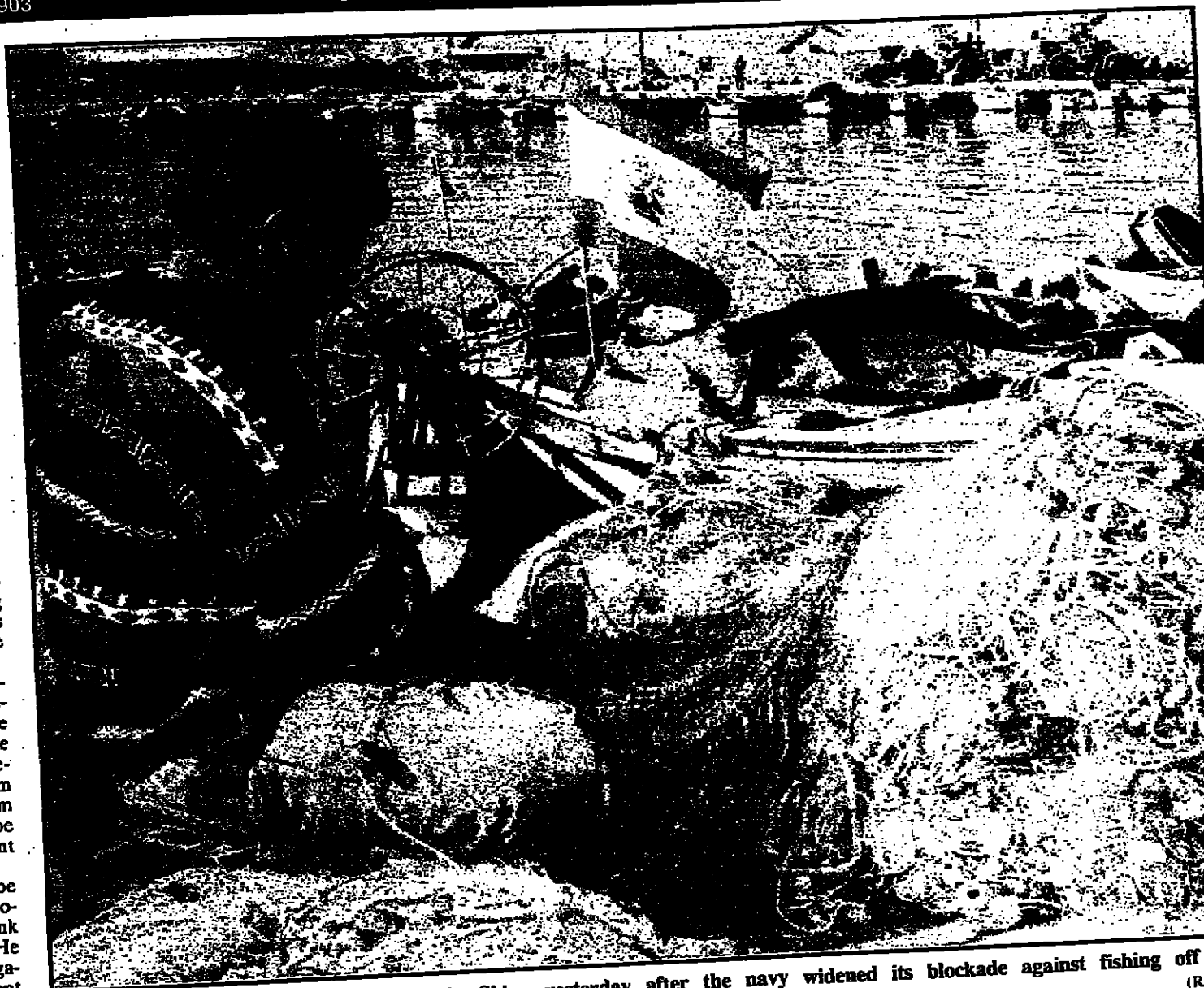
Finance Ministry director general David Brodet has been reported as recommending to limit future subsidies to the pension funds. Currently, the Treasury issues special bonds to the funds with an assured above-market yield of 5.5% over inflation.

Under Brodet's proposal, only 70% of new pension obligations would be covered by special bonds with an assured yield of just 4.5%. The pension funds could invest the remaining 30% of new pension contributions in the stock market.

Speaking about interest rates, Shohat admitted he disagreed with the timing and the amount of Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel's rate cuts in the past four months.

"The bank governor sees interest rates as an instrument to reduce inflation, but we must not forget that high interest rates have an impact on important indicators such as growth and employment," he said.

Shohat denied that the proposal to distribute options to every citizen to purchase government-owned companies is political. A panel headed by Brodet is currently studying the proposal and is expected to issue its recommendations this week or next.



A Lebanese fisherman cleans his nets in Sidon yesterday after the navy widened its blockade against fishing off the Lebanese coast to include Damour. (Reuters)

Navy tightens blockade of ports in south Lebanon; Hrawi appeals to US

ALON PINKAS and news agencies

THE navy yesterday tightened its weeklong blockade of ports in southern Lebanon in an attempt to pressure the Lebanese government to ease travel restrictions on residents of the south, as well as to prevent arms shipments to Hizbullah.

Over the weekend, Hizbullah exchanged artillery and mortar fire with the IDF and the South Lebanese Army on the Iqlim el-Tuffah ridge north of the security zone.

Navy sources confirmed that a "limited blockade" has been imposed on the ports of Tyre and Sidon. Lebanese sources said Israel Navy ships patrolled yesterday opposite Damour, a small port about 20 kilometers south of Beirut. According to Lebanese Radio, navy ships prevent fishermen from sailing farther than two to three kilometers from shore and frequently approach boats and intimidate the fishermen.

The navy sources did not confirm nor deny the extension of the blockade north to Damour.

Fishermen told Reuters yesterday that two Israeli gunboats appeared off Damour at dawn and sailors fired warning machine-gun bursts at them and told them to go back. Similar encounters occurred off Sidon. Lebanon's largest port, where Israeli gunboats reportedly ordered fishing vessels to return to port. Similar restrictions were imposed against the port of Tyre for the last two weeks.

"Do we have to hunt dogs to live?" fisherman Ahmad Babour, who has six children, asked of the blockade which threatens the

livelihood of some 1,800 fishermen along a 70-km stretch of Lebanese coast from Nakoura to Damour.

"The Israelis began with Tyre, then Sidon, and today they forbid us from fishing off Damour. We don't know what's next," said Mustapha Bawji, a fisherman from Sidon.

"This blockade means cutting our livelihood, because fishing near the coast is not even enough to feed a baby," Hussein Qors, a 60-year-old fisherman who has 10 children, told Reuters.

Meanwhile, Lebanese President Elias Hrawi on Friday appealed to the United States, Russia, and Europe to intervene to end the naval blockade and Israel's occupation of the security zone.

"Is insistence on shelling our villages in the south or the naval siege of Tyre and Sidon ... or the violation of our sovereignty in a fashion that shatters every charter, tradition, and norm the road to peace?" Hrawi wrote in a letter sent to world and UN leaders.

On Saturday, Hrawi traveled to Damascus to confer with Syrian officials, including Vice President Abdul-Halim Khaddam.

On Friday, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin sent a message to UN Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali, saying Israel "was not shelling Lebanon. It is striking Hizbullah positions."

Rabin said that when Lebanon "prevents Hizbullah and other terrorist groups from carrying out terrorist attacks ... there will be no

need for further such action on Israel's part." In a related development, Hizbullah deputy leader Sheikh Naim Qasem said in Tyre that peace with Israel is possible if it withdraws from all occupied territories.

"We are being accused of reluctance to negotiate. We want to declare here that if the Israelis really want to find a solution, their forces must withdraw from all territories occupied from Syria, Lebanon, and in Palestine," Qasem told a rally of 7,000 Hizbullah supporters on the occasion of the Iranian initiative "International Jerusalem Day."

Hizbullah claimed it kidnapped two Christian men from Saidun village inside the security zone, whom it suspects of cooperating with Israel. Israel Radio reported yesterday. There was no confirmation by either the South Lebanese Army or Israel.

On Friday, Hizbullah threatened to rocket Galilee settlements if Israel shelled civilians in south Lebanon.

"The Islamic Resistance still retains the right to target the Jewish settlements in northern Palestine when our civilians are subjected to bombardment, are killed, and their homes destroyed," Hizbullah chief Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah told thousands of militants at the Beirut rally.

Nasrallah said his guerrillas trying to oust Israeli troops from the security zone will not be pulled into a battle chosen by Israel.

"We will practice it [the right to hit Israel] when we want to, not when the Israelis want to pull us into a battle they choose. We know when to use this right," said Nasrallah.

Five killed on roads in weekend accidents

FIVE persons were killed and three seriously injured in four road accidents over the weekend.

San Miller and his grandson, Ya'acov, 19, both of Rehovot, were killed Friday afternoon when their station wagon, driven by Ya'acov, swerved into the opposite lane on a curve and collided head-on with a van. The two occupants of the van, from Ramle, were seriously injured. Police said Miller was speeding.

An Ashdod woman, 55, was killed and her husband seriously injured yesterday afternoon, when their car ran off the road into a ditch and overturned near Gadera. Police are investigating.

On Friday morning Michael Anielewicz, 67, of Holon was struck and killed by a car while

crossing Holon's Rehov Eilat. Before dawn Friday, Michael Wilenchik, 38, of Beersheba was struck and killed as he crossed the road opposite the municipal cemetery. Police investigators said Wilenchik had rushed across the road carelessly.

Last week 17 persons were killed and 59 injured in 43 road accidents. Police suspended the licenses of 380 drivers caught committing serious violations.

Among those killed were a three-month-old girl run over in a Jaffa parking lot when her father left her cradle unattended and a five-year-old boy run over in Beit Jalla. Since the beginning of the year, 88 persons have lost their lives on the roads. (Iim)

Exiled Iranian: Arad suffering both physically and mentally

Jerusalem Post Staff

MISSING airman Ron Arad is suffering in an Iranian jail, an exiled Iranian told Channel Two yesterday.

The Iranian, Manasher Mutamer, told Channel Two that he worked for Iran's intelligence agency from 1985 until 1994, when he left the Islamic state.

A month before Mutamer left Iran he visited a jail in the Iranian city of Esfahan where he saw a foreign prisoner that jail officers

told him was Arad, he said. "Regrettably his physical condition was very poor ... his mental condition was very poor. They move him every few months. They are trying to break him emotionally and in spirit," Mutamer said.

"I have a message for his wife and for his mother and that is: your husband and your son is alive ... He is holding on despite the suffering," Mutamer said.

Wanted Fatah terrorist evades navy, arrives in Gaza

A FATAH terrorist long wanted by the GSS landed at Gaza yesterday in a small dinghy from Egypt, evading Israeli naval surveillance off the coast.

Yasser Abu Samahdaneh, 25, arrived in Rafiah on Friday with four other wanted Fatah Hawks, where he was received by hundreds of residents who fired into the air and held celebrations.

He managed to evade the GSS for several years, escaping to Libya via Egypt 18 months ago.

According to Palestinian sources, Abu Samahdaneh and

apparently on an Egyptian boat. In Egypt, they boarded the dinghy which took them to Gaza.

During the intifada, Abu Samahdaneh was responsible for a series of attacks and murders of soldiers, settlers, and in the Gaza Strip. Pictures of him killing an alleged collaborator before news cameras was circulated worldwide.

The sources said that Abu Samahdaneh would receive a senior post in the Palestinian Police's security service. (Iim)

Ben-Yair asks GSS to probe Deri case leak

Shahal calls for tough action against culprits

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

ATTORNEY-General Michael Ben-Yair has asked the General Security Service to determine whether one of its agents leaked information to defendants in the trial of former interior minister Aryeh Deri and others that police were recording their phone conversations.

The GSS maintains, however, that the information could not have come from its agents, who install wiretaps on phone lines, but do not know to whom they belong.

The alleged leaks came to light last week when police tapes and tapes of prosecution witness Ya'acov Shmulevitz with defendant Moshe Weinberg were submitted to the court.

In one of the conversations, Weinberg said he and the other defendants knew that the police were recording their phone conversations. Shmulevitz asked him how he knew and Weinberg said a GSS agent had told him.

The GSS was outraged that the attorney-general did not censor the tapes, which detailed the GSS's methods of operation. Moreover, no investigation of the matter was conducted, although the tapes had been in police custody for four years.

A judge may be appointed to investigate the affair, because the GSS, police, and State Attorney's Office are all involved.

However, the State Attorney's Office opposes investigating the matter until the Deri trial is completed, or at least until Weinberg finishes testifying.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal yesterday called for prosecuting whoever leaked information to Deri and his co-defendants that their phones were being tapped by police. Shahal said those responsible should be charged, even if they no longer work for the GSS or the police.

Shahal told Army Radio: "The statute of limitations has not yet passed regarding such an offense, and whoever committed it should

be brought to trial. There are no two ways about it."

Shahal said he prefers the police investigate the matter, but added: "I will accept any decision made by the attorney-general regarding the investigation and who should investigate. The main thing is getting to the truth. The truth here is important, and not the method or the way we get to it."

The police minister expressed concern that the leaks to Deri and his co-defendants were not an isolated incident. "If there is a leak about something sensitive like this, in which the GSS and police have to depend on each other regarding very sensitive matters, we have to know about it. There could be a much more serious problem: that this is not an isolated past incident, but that such things are also continuing today," he said.

Shahal expressed confidence that the matter would not harm relations between the GSS and the police in their joint fight against terrorism and in other security-related matters. "Institutions that work together must know that they can trust each other without fear there will be a leak. Relations between the police and the GSS are excellent, with very close daily cooperation and mutual appreciation."

Meanwhile, Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz on Friday rejected charges by the head of the GSS that the police had not investigated the information obtained in the recordings made four years ago by Weinberg.

"Everything was known about and reported - we held discussions about the tapes' content and what needed to be done was done," Hefetz said, adding that discussions were held before the tapes were presented in court on whether to reveal the information or not.

Hefetz appointed Criminal Investigations Division chief Cmdr. Yossi Levy to look into the GSS chief's claims. Levy said he hopes to complete his inquiries within a few days.

The Jewish Agency for Israel,
The World Zionist Organization
Congratulate
Mr. Leon Levy
on his election to the position
of president
of the conference of presidents
of major Jewish Organizations
We wish him Great success
Yehiel Lakot
Acting Chairman

The Presidium and the Executive Committee
of the
World Sephardi Federation,
and
Sephardi communities throughout the world,
express their pride and pleasure at the election of
Mr. Leon Levy
President of the American Sephardi Federation,
to the position of
**President of the Conference of Presidents
of Major Jewish Organizations**
Hearty congratulations and
Best Wishes!
Nessim D. Gaon
President, World Sephardi Federation

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Erekat: Autonomy accord in danger of collapse

A PALESTINIAN Authority minister warned yesterday that the autonomy accord could disintegrate if progress is not made toward extending self-rule to all of the West Bank.

Municipal Affairs Minister Saeb Erekat spoke after the Palestinian Authority's weekly cabinet meeting that discussed the impasse in the peace talks.

"We feel that the peace process has to move on all issues," Planning Minister Nabih Shaath,

News agencies

specifically noting Israeli redeployment in the West Bank.

Shaath urged Israel to halt construction in the settlements, release Palestinian prisoners and further ease the closure.

Erekat said the two sides are now only discussing elections and called for parallel talks on the other issues. "Unless Mr. Rabin has made up his mind that he doesn't intend to implement the

interim agreement.

"Without the negotiations over redeployment and the elections that may lead to the implementation of the interim agreement, Gaza/Jericho is slipping out of our hands," Erekat said. "It can't survive."

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher plans to visit the region next month to try to revive Israeli-Palestinian and Israeli-Syrian talks. Shaath said the PA was looking forward to the visit.

Iranians vow to end Israeli control of Jerusalem

NICOSIA (AP) — Iranians poured into the streets of Teheran and other cities Friday to vow Israel's destruction and restoration of Moslem control over Jerusalem.

The annual Rooze Quds, or Jerusalem Day, drew millions of people in the capital chanting "Death to America" and "Death to Israel," according to Tehran Radio, monitored in Cyprus.

The rally climaxed at Teheran University with a prayer ceremony, in which President Hashemi Rafsanjani denounced the United States and the West for sup-

porting Israel, which he termed a "cancerous and infected tumor."

Rafsanjani said it was a "very big mistake" to think the Arab-Israeli peace process will solve the problems of the Middle East. "In reality, it is no more than ash on a fire which the storms of opposition will reignite," Rafsanjani told the crowd.

Rafsanjani also complained that Washington brands Iran a terrorist state and accuses it of trying to acquire nuclear technology while turning a blind eye to Israel's military capabilities. "The Americans believe that

all countries must be disarmed [of nuclear weapons], but Israel must have all kinds of weapons," he said.

Teheran Radio told its listeners that Quds Day rallies were held Friday in Moslem countries from Lebanon to Indonesia and "once more the anthem for the liberation of Quds from the claws of Zionism resounded throughout the world of Islam."

In south Beirut, Iranian-backed militants of Hizbullah paraded in the streets and trampled on the American flag to mark the event.



Members of the Al-Jabary family yesterday mourn a relative killed in the Machpela Cave massacre, one calendar year since the killings took place. (Khaled Zighari)

Arab youths riot in Jerusalem after prayers marking end of Ramadan

Tension mounts in Hebron as three settlers arrested outside Machpela Cave

News agencies

HUNDREDS of Arab youths rioted on Sultan Suleiman Street in Jerusalem yesterday, after more than 60,000 Moslem worshippers left the Temple Mount following Lailat al-Kadr prayers marking the end of Ramadan.

The youths threw stones at police and border policemen. Large forces of police were called to the scene to disperse the rioters. Hundreds of Arab youths also gathered near the Old City's Dung Gate, but order was maintained.

Earlier, three firebombs were thrown at a Border Police patrol in Ras al-Amud, but caused no damage.

In Hebron, soldiers detained three settlers outside the Machpela Cave for rioting, the army said. Palestinian reporters complained they were harassed, cursed, and spat at by settlers.

Settlers trying to enter the Machpela Cave clashed with bor-

der policemen guarding the site, sacred to Moslems and Jews, but declared temporarily off-limits to Jewish worshippers to limit friction.

"A number of Israelis were detained after they rioted and clashed with military police there," an army spokesman said. Witnesses said one of the detained settlers was a pregnant woman who struck a police officer and several women soldiers.

Palestinian witnesses said scores of settlers kicked and shoved Arab worshippers and IDF troops yesterday near the cave.

They said soldiers standing guard near the cave did little to stop about 60 settlers from blocking Palestinians from entering, where Moslems were gathering to observe Lailat al-Kadr. Several settlers also tried to disturb Moslems eating a meal to end their

Ramadan fast at the site.

Hebron and Kiryat Arba settlers complained of mistreatment over the weekend by police near the cave.

These included an alleged attempt by the police regional chief of operations to choke an 18-year-old youth who was holding his three-year-old sister in the garden outside the cave yesterday while a group of children were being dispersed. The child fell and was hurt as a result.

They added that a 14-year-old settler girl suffered a hand injury when she was allegedly hit by a border policeman.

Several settlers said they believed the police are trying to get the settlers to riot to prove their presence in the city endangers security, to justify removing them from the city.

On Friday, troops arrested 26

Arabs and five Israeli peace activists during clashes in Nablus and Hebron in which two Arabs were wounded, Palestinians and the army said.

Palestinians in Hebron said troops prevented the group of about 30 Israeli peace activists from reaching the tomb complex. They said scuffles ensued followed by arrests.

The demonstrators carried banners calling for the establishment of a Palestinian state and evacuation of Jewish enclaves inside Hebron.

About 1,500 Palestinians prayed on Friday at the Machpela Cave.

In Jerusalem, more than 160,000 participated in prayers on the Temple Mount mosques, despite the closure.

Young people arriving for prayers were asked to leave identity cards at the entrance, and the prayers passed peacefully.

Jordan sends team to scout for office in Gaza

News agencies

A THREE-MAN Jordanian is due in the Gaza Strip today to survey sites for a representative office, the Jordanian news agency Petra reported yesterday.

The delegation will be headed by Assistant Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Ahmad Hassanat, the agency said.

Meanwhile, Jordan said yesterday it had awarded a \$5-million contract for a pipeline to carry up to 30 million cubic meters (mcm) of water from northern Israel.

Water Minister Saleh Issheidat told Reuters the 3.5-kilometer steel pipeline would be built by a local firm and be operational by May 15.

The pipeline will take water from Lake Kinneret into the 110-km. long King Abdullah canal irrigating the Jordan Valley.

One third of it will be inside Israel.

Under the Jordan-Israel peace treaty, it could get over 150 mcm of water from various sources if several dams and desalination plants are built, according to Jordanian officials.

The 30 mcm of water to be carried by the pipeline include 20 mcm stored in the Kinneret during the winter.

It would be pumped between May 15 and October 15 and Israel would provide the rest, from floodwater, in winter.

Issheidat said the European Union had appointed an Irish consultancy to set engineering terms of reference for possible dams on the Jordan River.

He said the ministry also had short-listed four consortiums of local and international engineering firms to do a feasibility study on a dam to regulate Yarmuk River waters entering the King Abdullah Canal.

"We expect the study contract to be awarded sometime next week," he said.

Issheidat said the proposed \$7 million dam would yield up to 70 mcm of water a year by better diversion.

Israel will also get some 25 mcm of water. A dam could be operating by early 1996.

'Attacks by settlers on Palestinians decrease'

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE number of attacks on Palestinians by settlers dropped sharply over the past year, according to a report by the Peace Watch group.

The group said only one Palestinian was killed intentionally by Israelis in the year since the Hebron massacre, while six Palestinians were killed by Israeli civilians in the same period the previous year.

That incident occurred in March, 1994, when Daniel Morali shot an Arab praying on the side of a road in Beit Guvrin.

The Israeli authorities launched a crackdown on Jewish extremists following the massacre, in which 29 Palestinians were shot by Baruch Goldstein.

Peace Watch attributed the drop in civilian attacks on Palestinians to the crackdown. The group also noted a drop in the number of incidents of Israelis vandalizing Palestinian property.

However, the group did not include attacks on Palestinians provoked by stone-throwing or other violence or those Palestinians who were killed by Israelis in "unclear circumstances."

The number of Palestinian deaths in that category remained unchanged, according to Peace Watch.

In the year before the Hebron massacre, five Palestinians were killed by Israeli civilians in such circumstances, compared with six over the past year.

'Time to reassess Israel's nuclear posture'

ALON PINKAS

NOW that Israel's nuclear posture has been exposed by Egypt, it is inevitable that official policy on nuclear matters be reassessed and possibly amended, says a senior security official involved in the arms control and regional security multilateral talks.

"We have not held a serious debate on the nuclear issue, and except for some academicians and journalists, the parameters of this discourse were set by foreign reports that occasionally came up with stories on Israel's nuclear power," the official said.

"I can tell you that a serious debate has not even taken place

in the highest decision-making circles, not since the 1960s. That leaves the current leadership with no staff and an impoverished intellectual reservoir to draw from when the [Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty] issue pops to the top of the agenda. All government organs with some connection to these issues are really the establishment itself, and therefore you will not find originality," the official said.

He added that Egypt's motives must be carefully analyzed by Israel, as should their long-term

consequences.

"One thing is clear. Even if opacity and the policy of nuclear obscurity prevail — which personally I think they should — things are never going to be the same, because Egypt compelled us to reluctantly engage in a debate on nuclear issues. Perhaps this external pressure will produce internal pressure to conduct a serious discussion among ourselves," he said.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said tension with Egypt over the refusal to sign the

NPT has lowered.

"I think there is a mutual attempt to defuse the tension and not to let the disagreements affect the overall relations between Egypt and ourselves," Peres told Israel Radio on Friday.

A Dahaf poll published in Friday's *Yedioth Aharonot* showed that most Israelis oppose giving in to Egypt's demand that Israel sign the NPT. The poll found that 71 percent of the 501 citizens it surveyed on Tuesday and Wednesday said Israel should not give in and 23% said it should. Another 6% did not respond.

Authorities stop leftist demo at New Givon

Jerusalem Post Staff

POLICE and IDF forces blocked an attempt yesterday by Palestinians and Gush Shalom to demonstrate at the New Givon settlement.

The demonstrators were blocked at the entrance of the settlement by security personnel, who barricaded the road and declared the settlement a closed military area. Journalists were also prevented from entering.

Some 80 people in the Israeli-Palestinian group intended to reach the home of an Arab resident of a nearby village to plant olive trees as a protest against attempts by settlers "to take over the land."

Meanwhile, a group of settlers gathered at the site and launched a counter-demonstration, which drew the support of other settlers who drove by the area.

In response, the Israeli-Palestinian group unfurled signs saying "The time has come to dismantle the settlements."

According to a statement from Gush Shalom, at the end of the protest police ordered the group's leaders to appear for questioning at the Givat Ze'ev police station this morning. But they said they "would not go to a police station in a settlement in the occupied territories."

Egyptian diplomat: Israeli approach to peace talks main cause of tension

JON IMMANUEL CAIRO

THE tension in Israeli-Egyptian relations stems from Israel's approach to the peace process with Palestinians more than from its refusal to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, according to a veteran Egyptian diplomat.

Tahseen Bashir, former deputy chairman of the Arab League, said in an interview last week with *The Jerusalem Post* that he would trade off bombs for settlements.

"I would be tolerant towards Israel for 30 years, allowing it to keep 30 bombs if it liquidated 30 settlements. I think settlements and people are more explosive in the short run, than the nuclear issue," Foreign reports estimate Israel has some 100 nuclear warheads.

Bashir scored Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin for hesitancy over the peace process and creating "bad static" in communications with Egypt.

He said Menachem Begin showed more courage than Rabin in paying the price of peace because he agreed to remove Sinai settlements, while Rabin "jumped at the Oslo Agreement essentially because it postponed [the matter of the] settlements."

Bashir said Egyptians believe Rabin and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres "started having illusions that you can make peace with the Arab states without having peace with the Palestinians."

Instead of praising Oslo as an Israeli-initiated breakthrough, he feels Rabin is "playing politics as usual," where "building peace means building structural change."

He supported the view that the final settlement with the Palestinians should be negotiated now.

The problem for Israeli-Egyptian relations in the current crawl towards an interim settlement is that "we are both hinged to peace

but we do not have a common view of the future of the area."

According to Bashir, Egypt wants a regional strategy to be the basis of Israel's integration and not bilateral talks.

Egypt therefore is discouraging the normalization of ties with Israel by Arab states until Israel joins the NPT and withdraws to its final borders, both issues of regional importance to Egypt.

Bashir's trade-off strategy, exchanging Israel's right to keep bombs if it gives up settlements is part of a regional approach to solving problems.

Until now these were dealt with in a bilateral way, which frequently leads to deadlock, for want of alternative options.

He offered another way to resolve the "stumbling block" of settlements, following the example of the Israeli-Jordanian agreement.

"You can exchange territory in which settlers are located, for equivalent Israeli territory, or lease back territory. That removes the either-or," he said. "That's the whole idea of peace."

Poll shows increased support for Netanyahu

Jerusalem Post Staff

BINYAMIN Netanyahu would beat Yitzhak Rabin in the race for prime minister in a field of four left-wing and four right-wing candidates, according to a *Ma'ariv* poll published Friday.

Asked for whom they would vote if elections were held today, 33% said Netanyahu, 20% Rabin, 4% Rafael Eitan, 4% Ariel Sharon, 1% Dan Meridor, 10% Shimon Peres, 3% Haim Ramon,

and 2% Yossi Sarid.

A total of 301 Jewish adult residents were surveyed in the February 21 poll.

The survey has a 4.5% margin of error.

The poll, which was also conducted in November, December and January, indicated a marked increase in support for Netan-

yahu, who had received 22%, 26%, and 25% of the vote, respectively.

At the same time, last week's poll found a drop in support for Rabin, who earned 29%, 23.5%, and 23% in the previous three months.

The poll also showed an increase in support for Shimon Peres, from 5% in November to 10% last week.

L'Oreal, Cosmair: We abhor antisemitism

MARILYN HENRY NEW YORK

L'OREAL and its American unit, Cosmair, "abhor antisemitism," the cosmetics companies said, after one of their principals was accused of being a Nazi propagandist.

French Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld said last week that An-

dre Bettencourt, a former L'Oreal executive, should be denied entry to the US on the basis of his wartime writings.

Bettencourt, 75, resigned last

December as vice chairman of L'Oreal.

In his newspaper dispatches, which were recently uncovered, Bettencourt wrote, for example, that Jews were "hypocritical pharisees... their race has been forever sullied."

HERZL

In deepest sorrow we announce the passing in the US, on February 22, 1995, of our brother

eldest son of the late Prof. Israel and Lilian Friedlander

Carmel Agranat
Judith Friedlander

EMIL MOSKOVICS

Deeply mourned by

Wife, Marjorie
Daughter, Helen and Mel Elberger
Grandchildren, Avrumi and Heshy
Elizabeth, New Jersey

Daughter, Beverly and Jack Holliander
Grandson, Moshe Meir, Jerusalem

Shiva until Tuesday night, February 28,
at 10/2 Chopin Street, Jerusalem

ARRIVALS

Dr. Rosalie Reich, National President, Emunah of America, for the Presidents' Conference.

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25 Russians killed; smoke covers Grozny

**LIBI THE FUND FOR
STRENGTHENING ISRAEL'S DEFENSE**


Libi Fund Reaches New High

Members of the Libi Fund's public committee, headed by Libi Chairman Maj.-Gen (Res.) Danny Matt, assembled this week to hear a summary of Libi Fund activities for 1994.

Libi Commander Col. Meir Blayer reported that in 1994 the fund showed an increase of 22% in comparison with 1993, which represents a real increase of 7.5%.

Chairman Matt informed the committee that in 1994 the fund allocated approximately NIS 11 m. to the Education Corps to provide basic education and technical training to thousands of disadvantaged male and female soldiers, to teach Hebrew to new immigrant soldiers and prepare them for basic training and to meet the cost of special courses for officers.

An additional NIS 5.5 m. was channeled for the purchase of sophisticated medical equipment, to establish medical centers and for various other projects.



In the picture (left to right): Libi Chairman Maj.-Gen (Res.) Danny Matt, Libi Commander Col. Meir Blayer, Mr. Menachem Sherman, Prof. Sarrah Branner and Major Enrica Assif. (Photo - Army Spokesman's Office).

'Serbs in new terror drive against Bosnian Moslems'

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Serbs have launched a fresh terror campaign against Moslems in northern Bosnia, beating and robbing civilians in a major abuse of human rights. UN refugee spokesman Kris Janowski said yesterday.

He said the Serbs' goal was to complete an "ethnic cleansing" operation to drive the last non-Serbs out of the area.

The attacks on Moslems families violated the terms of a four-month ceasefire which took effect in Bosnia at the start of the year and which is coming under increasing pressure.

The UN was forced to suspend flights to Sarajevo airport yesterday after gunfire hit a cargo aircraft as it landed.

Janowski told reporters: "In Gradiska (northern Bosnia) for the past month, Moslem houses have been systematically robbed and their occupants terrorized."

Armed men in uniform had severely beaten Moslem civilians and ransacked their houses in villages around the Serb-held region of Banja Luka, site of ethnic expulsions of non-Serbs throughout the war.

Whole villages were asking to be evacuated, Janowski said.

One Moslem man and his son had been shot and seriously wounded while another house had been targeted by a hand grenade.

"These are the last finishing touches of ethnic cleansing in Bosanska Krajina (northern Bosnia). That's basically what it is," he said. "And it is being condoned by the authorities."

He said the attacks made a mockery of human rights in general and Bosnia's current ceasefire accord, which obliged the combatants to respect human rights, in particular.

On February 15, in the hamlet of Džube southeast of Banja Luka, three armed men beat a woman, threatened to rape her and demanded her valuables while holding a gun to her head, according to UN field workers.

"They also held a knife to her child's throat and threatened to kill her mother-in-law," Janowski said. "Eventually they got 300 deutsche marks. That was all the family had. But they still beat up the family afterwards."

The armed gang attacked another house nearby and other families fled to escape the assault. Their houses were also ransacked.

The armed men warned when they left that "they would be back soon."

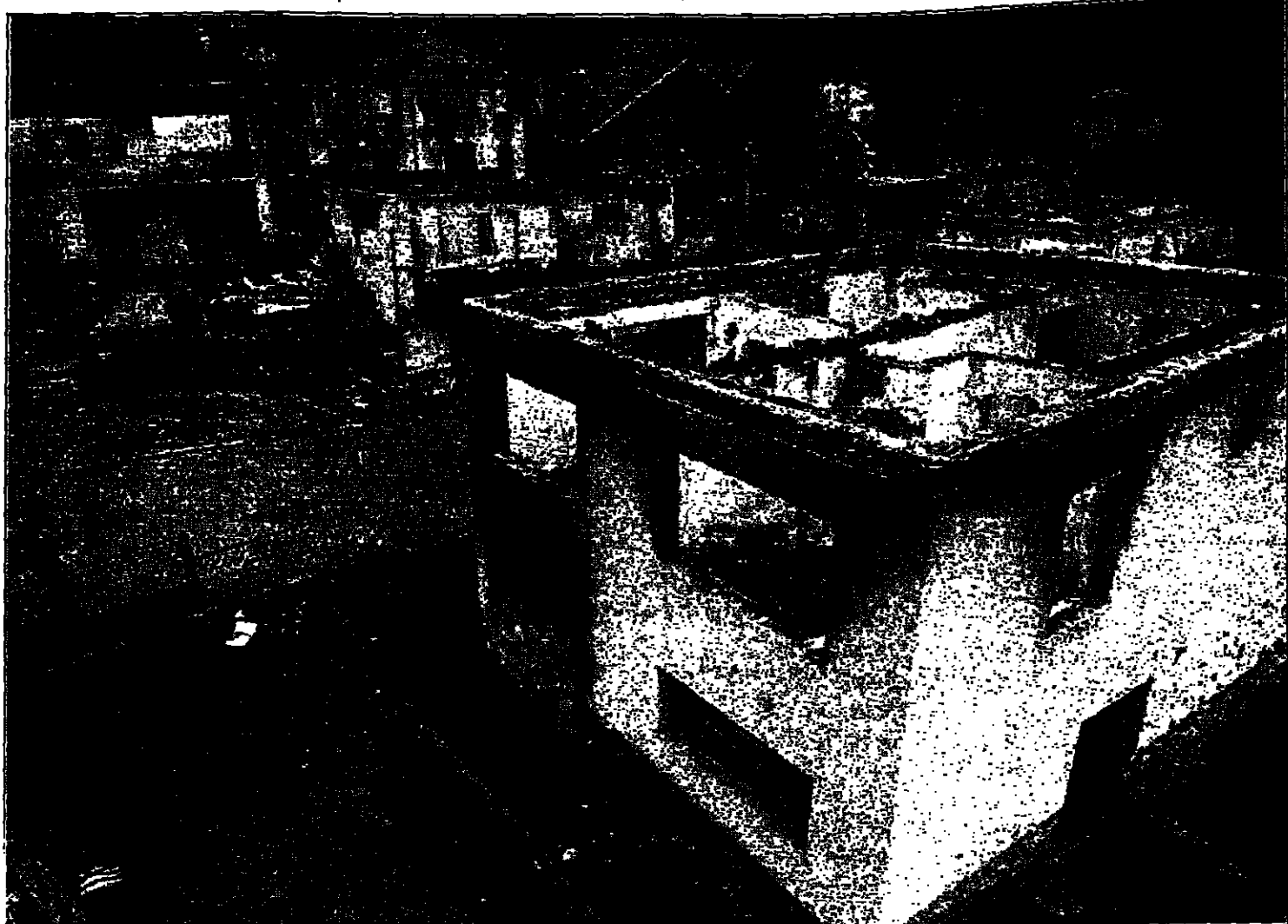
The UNHCR had only received word of the incidents yesterday and planned to raise the issue with Bosnian Serb authorities. But Janowski said the Bosnian Serb leadership has never made good on promises to halt ethnic expulsions during the course of the war.

"Since the authorities have never done anything to curb these activities they are ultimately responsible," he said.

"We are not buying excuses these are rogue elements or that these people are out of control. We know from the past if the authorities wanted to establish control they could do it."

Serb "ethnic cleansing" continued to drive out Moslems and Croats from Serb-held territory. More than 250 civilians from northern Bosnia had crossed front lines into Bosnian government-held territory at Turbe in the past few days, he said.

"There's a constant movement of people (out) and it can be explained by the way the remaining minority is being treated," he said.



A Bosnian soldier walks through the devastated village of Sokolac on the outskirts of Bihać town. The area was destroyed by Serb forces last October before being retaken by the Bosnian Army. (Reuters)

UN unable to wake up social summit

STOCKHOLM (AP) - The organizers have held seminars, spewed out apocalyptic reports, advertised on the Internet, and even booked a speech by Peter Ustinov.

But the biggest meeting ever on haves and have-nots - the UN World Summit on Social Development - still hasn't caught fire. A week before it opens in affluent Copenhagen, many people still are wondering what good can come from a \$28 million huddle on poverty and unemployment.

The timing could hardly be worse. Rich nations are cutting foreign aid. Poor ones are still spending more on guns. Jobs are

scarce. And nobody seems in the mood for hard promises.

Organizers concede little or nothing may emerge from the March 6-12 event.

The session is the fourth major UN gathering this decade, coming after the 1992 Earth Summit, the 1993 human rights conference and the 1994 population session. The UN Conference on Women will be in China next year, and it already is getting more attention than the aid summit.

Some 10,000 delegates will debate schemes for "eradicating" poverty, unemployment and inequality. At a weekend gala 110 leaders - including German

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, President Nelson Mandela of South Africa and US Vice President Al Gore - will sign a declaration of goals for solving the problems.

Their tasks are daunting. More than 1 billion people - one in five - live below the poverty line, the United Nations says. More than 800 million cannot find a job or enough work to make ends meet. One in every 115 people has been driven from their home because of war, famine or other reasons.

The summit is being held in tandem with the biggest-ever assembly of independent aid activists - partly in hopes of rousing more interest overall.

Four years on, Kuwaitis less keen on US

DIANA ELIAS
KUWAIT

DANCING in the streets and waving American flags. Kuwaitis four years ago had nothing but gratitude for their US saviors.

They would brook no criticism of the country that led the 33-nation coalition which liberated the tiny, oil-rich emirate from seven months of Iraqi occupation on Feb. 26, 1991.

Today the mood is less buoyant. American clothes, cars, pop music, trends and styles are still popular, especially among the young. And pictures of former President Bush, regarded as the man who assembled the Gulf War coalition, hang on walls in offices, stores and homes.

But many Kuwaitis are growing about what they perceive as heavy-handed US efforts to force the tiny emirate into the Israel-Arab peace process and to remain a regular client for US arms.

Some also doubt America's sincerity, believing the Western giant is more interested in Kuwait's oil wealth than its social, political and economic health.

One popular theory is that Washington, keen to get control of Kuwait's oil reserves, was in league with Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in his attempt to annex the emirate.

"They're making money out of protecting us," said Walid al-Fadi, a 26-year-old civil servant. "Saddam could be their agent."

If oil wasn't the main reason Americans freed Kuwait, "why didn't it liberate the Palestinians, who have no oil," he said.

"The Kuwaiti-American marriage is experiencing some kind of a mild, acrimonious feud," said Abdullah al-Shayji, political science teacher at Kuwait University and politi-

cal adviser to parliament. "The grass roots support for the United States is still very solid. But there have been some dissenting voices."

Dissent becomes particularly noticeable on the issue of Israeli relations with the Arab world.

Officially, Kuwait backs the peace process and says it will normalize relations with Israel once Syria and Lebanon follow Jordan and the Palestinians in signing peace accords.

Islamic extremists, however, cannot stomach the idea of Israeli Embassy in Kuwait or of doing business with Israelis.

Kuwait and the other members of the Gulf Cooperation Council have lifted the boycott on companies that do business with Israel. But the ban on direct dealings with Israeli companies will remain, they said, until the Arab League decides otherwise.

When the Foreign Ministry issued a statement condemning the Beit Lid suicide bombing that killed 21 soldiers, some fundamentalist parliamentarians protested.

They termed the bombing a "heroic operation." One Islamic fundamentalist lawmaker, Abdullah al-Hajiri, said the government had been pressured by Washington to condemn the explosion.

Because of radical forces in the Arab world, Kuwait cannot risk being seen as too close to Washington, said al-Shayji, the political adviser.

"Americans should know that they shouldn't push us too far," he said. "We have

many other countries who want to share the pie of rebuilding Kuwait."

Since liberation, Kuwait has spent about \$50 billion on repairing its infrastructure, including electricity, water and oil installations and other government buildings. More remains to be done.

Although doubts about American resolve to protect the emirate were assuaged by its prompt response to Iraq's military buildup near the border with Kuwait last October, more Kuwaitis are willing to believe conspiracy theories.

Abdullah al-Nafeesi, a political science teacher at Kuwait University, told the *Al-Wakeel* daily recently that regional instability would allow the United States to keep Kuwait a willing arms client.

The government has committed nearly \$12 billion to be spent on defense until 2003. Washington would like to see much of that spent on US-made weapons.

US Ambassador Ryan Crocker responds to many of the criticisms when he visits diwanias, the traditional men-only gatherings. In those discussions, these arguments lose some of their stature "because the facts just don't bear them out," he said.

Shafiq al-Ghabra, a political science teacher, warned Kuwait not to take America for granted.

"What was done in 1991 had to do with interests more than with love and hatred... and the moment the United States does not feel it has any interests with Kuwait, it will just forget about it," he said. "And it's up to Kuwait to decide whether it wants to be forgotten or not." (AP)

Gaddafi threatens jihad against NATO

TUNIS (Reuters) - Libya's Muammar Gaddafi said he will distribute arms in the streets and launch a jihad against NATO if it expands its influence in north Africa.

"We will never permit NATO to deploy its wings over North Africa as long as we are alive," said Gaddafi. He was incensed by NATO talks with five north African and Middle Eastern states, and his remarks were reported by JANA news agency yesterday.

"Our brother Arab rulers in North Africa must know that if NATO advances under any pretext, we will not talk to the rulers, but to (their) peoples," Gaddafi said at what JANA said was a

religious meeting on Friday night.

"We will distribute arms in the streets... we will cross the artificial borders and proclaim the jihad and brandish Saladin's flag, because this battle is in our house." The 12th century Moslem warrior fought against the armies of the Crusades.

Gaddafi has made several fiery statements this week against the talks NATO opened in Brussels with Morocco, Egypt, Mauritania, Tunisia and Israel to discuss security in north Africa.

A meeting in Tunis of interior ministers from France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Tunisia, and Algeria in January to coordinate the fight against Moslem fundamental-

ist violence also threatened Libya's security, Gaddafi said.

The Tunis meeting "confirms the beat of drums of a crusade war and we will be on the frontline and we must mobilize ourselves and beat the drums of confrontation", Gaddafi said.

NATO has stressed it is not planning a "crusade against Islam" but Gaddafi said Brussels is "to set the first steps for the progress of NATO's plan to dominate Arab Moslem north Africa."

Christopher out of hospital

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher yesterday morning left Georgetown University Hospital after one night there with a bleeding ulcer.

Christopher's doctors pronounced him "in excellent physical condition" and expect him to return to work tomorrow.

Christopher "will resume the full range of duties, including his forthcoming trip to the Middle East" that is to begin March 7 or 8, the State Department said.

Department spokeswoman Christine Shelly said his trip was

aimed at "exploring ways to consolidate agreements already reached" and building "a foundation for future progress."

It will include the Gulf for discussions on maintaining UN sanctions on Iraq.

Christopher was initially hospitalized Thursday in Ottawa, where he had accompanied President Bill Clinton on a state visit.

A speech he was to give Tuesday in Indiana was cancelled. However, he will go ahead with appearances before Congressional committees Wednesday and Thursday.

Mexican A-G: Slain presidential candidate was a victim of conspiracy

MEXICO CITY (AP) - The assassinated presidential candidate of Mexico's ruling party was the victim of a conspiracy, the attorney general said, and a second suspect has been arrested.

Attorney General Antonio Lozano Gracia also charged that evidence had been tampered with after the killing of Luis Donaldo Colosio at a March 23 campaign rally in Tijuana.

"The hypothesis of a single assassin is untenable," Lozano said at a news conference. "Without a doubt, the crime scene was manipulated."

With his announcement yesterday, Lozano endorsed what many Mexicans suspected: that the confessed assassin, a 23-year-old factory worker, could not have been the sole killer of Colosio of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI.

An earlier investigation rejected a possible conspiracy. Lozano, of the opposition National Ac-

tion Party, reopened the case shortly after he was appointed in December.

He did not give a motive for the killing, but refused to rule out speculation that top PRI figures might have been involved.

Lozano gave few details about the suspect, Othon Cortes Vazquez. He was arrested in Tijuana and flown to Toluca, outside Mexico, for questioning.

The government's Notimex news agency quoted the suspect's wife as saying he worked in the information department of the Tijuana branch of the attorney general's office. She insisted he was "totally innocent."

Prosecutors at first claimed that a disturbed lone gunman, Mario Aburto Martinez, fired both of the shots that killed Colosio.

They later claimed some of Colosio's local security detail, a motley group that included cashiered policemen, helped clear the

way for Aburto. Three alleged co-conspirators were charged.

But prosecutors later backed off the conspiracy claim, saying they had found no evidence. But they refused to drop charges against the three alleged co-conspirators.

Lozano said the earlier probes were riddled with irregularities.

He said studies of the ballistics and of film showed that "technically, it is impossible" that Aburto fired both bullets.

He also said the location where one bullet was found was inconsistent with ballistics tests and that it was a different color from the bullet seen on the ground by witnesses.

Lozano said the investigation is not finished. "We will continue with the investigation until all the facts are clarified."

Cortes' wife, Juana Valenzuela, told Notimex that her husband had been a fervent PRI supporter who had never used firearms.

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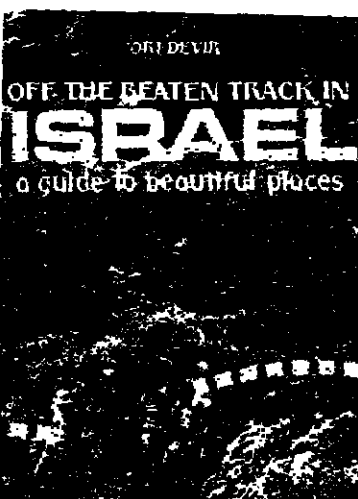
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HU puts heads and computers together

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

One hundred horses working together can't drag a wagon 100 times faster than a single horse, but they can divide up the work and demonstrate impressive power.

That's a layman's explanation for parallel computing, in which a series of workstations (high-powered personal computers) are linked together by a communications system to process data, piece by piece.

The operating system automatically assigns work to a computer the second it is free and then combines the finished product into a consistent whole.

Crunching a few hundred million computations per second used to be the sole province of supercomputers, which are manufactured by a handful of companies abroad and cost anywhere from \$10 million to \$30m. Such gargantuan computing power can be used for an endless number of practical applications, from custom designing new drugs suited to receptors in the body, to producing video-on-demand networks and virtual-reality devices.

But computer scientists have developed the poor man's near-equivalent of supercomputers — multi-processor parallel computers — to do virtually the same work for only a fraction of the price (around \$150,000). The US and Japanese governments have for years refused to allow supercomputer manufacturers to sell to Israel — on the grounds that these giant mechanical brains could help in the production of nuclear weapons. In the meantime, Israel-

li researchers — restricted more than most by tight university budgets — have excelled in developing the operating systems that make parallel computers work like a well-oiled machine.

Prof. Amnon Barak, head of the Hebrew University's computer science institute, headed the research and development project for over a decade. He was first introduced to computers three decades ago when he enlisted in the army. Any comparisons between those primitive computer systems and the one he has just designed would be ludicrous — like comparing an abacus with a mainframe central processing unit.

THE EQUIPMENT in the university's computer lab looks like any other, but its performance is unusual. A computer screen shows, in the form of colored columns, how work is switched from one workstation to another in split seconds. This ensures maximum utilization of the equipment without intervention by the computer operator or a central computer.

In the past, the university had to obtain a special import license to get its hardware. This time — since their own operating system was the innovation — they needed only to buy 28 off-the-shelf workstations in a Jerusalem computer store.

Barak's team invested more than 10 years in developing mathematical algorithms and designing the system. The resulting operating system — the best of six prototypes — is "unique and supe-



Prof. Amnon Barak demonstrates his parallel computing system at the Hebrew University lab.

rior to many parallel computer systems produced thus far," Barak said in an interview. "It eliminates the need for Israel to purchase an expensive supercomputer from abroad and may well answer all the country's current research-and-development needs."

The parallel computer can be used for an unlimited variety of programs. Although teaching the department's 450 BA, MA and PhD students about parallel computing is Barak's highest priority, the system is also being used by other departments on campus.

Since computer networks eliminate the importance of distance, said Barak, researchers at the HU's other campuses, as well as other universities around the country and abroad, may also have access to it.

"We are not keeping the system secret. In fact, I recently wrote a book that disclosed three-quarters of all the details,

including drawings. Although it is very difficult to obtain patents on such software, there are contacts with commercial interests regarding the breakthrough."

AT A modest ceremony at the Ross Computer Science Building on the Givat Ram campus 10 days ago, Barak noted that he hopes to add four more workstations in the near future and then double it to 64 units if funding is obtained. These computers can be integrated, like extra beads on a necklace, without revising the whole operating system. In theory, hundreds of workstations could work harmoniously in tandem under the operating system, generating tremendous brain power.

Funding for the project came from the US Air Force (which received regular reports but did not receive direct benefits), the Israeli Defense Ministry, Intel-Isral, National Semiconductor,

the Israel Academy of Sciences, turbine manufacturer Ormat, and the Ministry of Science and the Arts.

Most of the workstations contain Intel's famous Pentium microprocessor, and the rest work on slower 486 microprocessors. Dov Fruman of Intel-Isral said he was proud that his company had a part in the project.

Barak said he had never come across the famous defect in the Pentium chip that reportedly can cause errors in one in several billion calculations. "But we have ordered replacements, just in case, as soon as the corrected chip becomes available."

Barak proudly noted that the HU's computer-science students, studying with 20 faculty members, are among the best in the world.

"They are in the forefront of high-tech industry around the country and are making an important contribution."

Cellular calls go international

NEW WORLDS

POST SCIENCE REPORTER

THE era of lifetime personal phone numbers has dawned: AT&T has just introduced a new service in which US subscribers can be reached at a cellular phone wherever they go throughout America as well as 200 other countries — including Israel.

The customer receives a number that begins with the prefix 500 and may order a customized communications program that decides where various types of communications (fax, beeper, E-mail, cellular and regular phone calls) will be sent.

Calls may also be routed temporarily to alternative numbers, a computerized voice responder or other peripheral equipment.

AT&T says the subscriber can also agree to accept collect calls at a certain number. It is also possible to make a call from any telephone and bill one's own personal number.

Callers interested in reaching the subscriber will be informed over the phone that the person is outside the US and what the cost is of reaching him overseas; they will then be able to decide whether they want to go ahead.

Tens of thousands of Americans have already obtained personal phone numbers from AT&T. Some of them paid in advance last summer to guarantee a number in the future.

The initial charge for a personal number (not including the cost of phone calls) is \$1 a month; a customized communications program costs \$7 monthly.

'MISHLOAH MANOT'

BY E-MAIL

People connected to Internet anywhere in the world may send *mishloah manot* (Purim food parcels) to their friends in Israel by using E-mail. The Bnei Akiva youth movement of the US and Canada will expedite their orders.

Binyamin Pashkof of the Elronet company, which serves as a gateway to Internet, found the offer in a Jewish newspaper that runs over the Internet. Anyone who wants to order a gift parcel for an Israeli sends an E-mail message to Bnei Akiva, which uses a distributor here to prepare and dispatch it; payment must be received before delivery.

Prices for gifts to family and friends range from \$36 to \$60; all are kosher, but the most expensive are Badatz approved. Baskets for soldiers are sent through the Association for Soldiers' Welfare for a \$10 donation.

The Internet address is bakiva@transit.nyser.net

WARMING UP TO

SUN'S ENERGY

Solar energy research costing \$9 million will be carried out by Israeli and American scientists, and funded partly by the American-Israeli Science Committee, which was established in 1993.

The Weizmann Institute, whose scientists will be among those participating, announced recently that more than 100 research proposals have already been received.

Before power-generation projects are chosen for support, a \$100,000 feasibility study must be completed. The committee will cover half of the cost, with the rest coming from US and Israeli companies.

In a Jerusalem ceremony, US Commerce Secretary Ron Brown said solar energy was chosen as a basis for long-term economic growth and the establishment of new jobs in both countries. Among the companies to participate, in addition to the Rehovot Institute's research and development arm Yissum, will be McDonnell-Douglas, Ormat, El-Op and Rotem.

Expected sales of products resulting from the research will be at least \$1.4 billion by the year 2005, according to "conservative estimates" in the institute. By the year 2010, the resulting solar-energy installations around the



Owners of cellular phones may soon be able to connect to lines overseas. (IN-Press)

world are expected to generate 660 megawatts of electricity, leading to reduced pollution and less dependence on petroleum.

In addition, military technologies will be adapted to civilian uses.

FLYING HIGH

For the person who hates traffic jams and doesn't fear heights there is a new type of helicopter that can be flown without a license. Just strap it on and take off.

The prototype of the "strap-on helicopter" was put on display recently at the Japan International Aerospace Exhibition in Makuhari southeast of Tokyo.

The machine, which has two 10-horsepower engines, can fly one person on a seat hung with straps for four hours at speeds up to 100 kilometers per hour. The rotors, three meters in diameter, spin little more than arm's reach above the head of the seated passenger.

The Engineering System Company, which produced it, told Associated Press that the mini-helicopter cost about 3 million yen (\$30,000) to develop. But the company expects the price to drop once the 40-kilo craft goes into mass production.

TV-TEL ON LINE

Israel's TV-Tel system, modeled on the Minitel system in France, has been launched. M.L.L. Computers will sell the kit, which includes a 14,400-baud modem, communications software and information booklets for NIS 399.

TV-Tel allows owners of a home computer and a phone line to do their banking and shop from home. They may also receive information about entertainment and government services. The country has been divided into three distribution areas, with kits initially available at 65 shops in the central region; eventually, it will be sold at 800 outlets. TV-Tel is a joint effort of Bezek, Elbit and Tadiran.

FLEISHING SPONGE

Watch out for the meat-eating sponge. Living sponges have until now been regarded as herbivores; they live off tiny plants in seawater. But marine biologist Jean Vacelet of Marseille's University of Aix found carnivorous sponges in a submerged Mediterranean cave, where tiny marine plants are scarce. Writing in the British journal *Nature*, zoologist Michelle Kelly-Borges of London's Natural History Museum noted that "sponges are impressively adaptable to their environment. But it's surprising one evolved so thoroughly it doesn't much resemble a sponge anymore." Instead of small chambers where tiny plants get caught, the new sponge, called *Astodonta*, grows spike-like "grabbers" on its spindly arms that snare unfortunate creatures that swim too close.

"The high frequency of crustaceans found still alive, or in various stages of decay" in the sponge's grip indicates it dines on live seafood, Vacelet wrote.

When drying most fabrics, lint lasts forever

TELL ME WHY

JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Why does the clothes dryer remove a large amount of lint from clothes, no matter how many times those same clothes go into the dryer? One would think that cloth would stop losing lint after being dried a few times. Eric, Jerusalem.

Dr. Hilda Guttmann, director of the Israel Fiber Institute of the Ministry of Industry and Trade, explains:

Lint comes off clothing in the dryer as a result of its rubbing against other clothing or against itself. The force of air leads the lint to the filter, where it accumulates.

Fibers in cloth may be tightly or loosely twisted into threads, depending on the substance from which they are made and how smooth the fabric is. Cotton and wool are natural fibers in which many filaments are twisted together and then woven or knitted to become fabric. The softer, more absorbent or hairier the touch a fabric is (as in a towel or blanket), the less tightly its fibers are twisted, so being tossed in the

dryer loosens them more easily. A smooth, less porous fabric, like that of a raincoat, or a synthetic monofilament fiber, would lose much less lint.

Fabrics made of fibers that are less tightly twisted will continue to lose lint every time they're in the dryer. If they go into the dryer hundreds of times, the cloth may become thin and even develop holes.

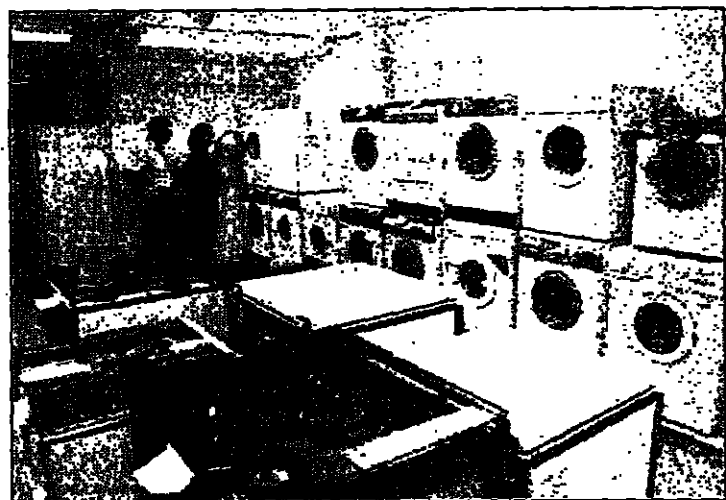
Why is hair curly, straight or wavy? Is it possible to be born with straight hair that becomes curly decades later? Ronnie, Ramat Hasharon.

Dr. Ronni Wolf, a dermatologist at Ichilov Hospital in Tel Aviv, replies:

The hair shaft is comprised of an outside section (the cuticle), the cortex (which makes up about 70 percent of the hair's volume), and a core called the medulla. The cortex is made up of tiny fibrils bound in a tight coil.

These fibrils are connected to each other with various chemical bonds that together determine the hair's properties, including flexibility and strength. The degree of curl is decided by the disulfide bonds between the fibrils.

The number and density of the



Clothes tossed in the dryer will never stop shedding lint, unless they are of a less porous material.

disulfide bonds — determined by heredity — will determine whether it will be curly or straight. If there are many dense bonds, the hair will be curly. If there are few bonds, the hair will be straight. Wavy hair is the in-between situation.

The bonds are usually stable, but they can come apart as a result of chemicals or even frequent shampooing, so one's hair can undergo structural changes.

Chemicals used to straighten or curl hair work by changing the disulfide bonds.

Why do 100-watt incandescent bulbs look exactly like bulbs with only 40 watts? Is the filament thinner in lower-watt bulbs? Richard, Rishon LeZion.

Dr. Ya'ir Alexander, of the Haifa Technion's electrical engineering department, explains:

Watts are units of power. The

coiled tungsten filament inside the bulb that heats up and produces the light has resistance to the electricity, meaning that it limits the flow of the current.

The manufacturer can determine the amount of resistance by the length and width of the coil. Think of a water pipe: water flows more slowly through a long, narrow pipe and faster through a short, wider pipe. The longer the filament in an incandescent bulb, the greater the resistance; the shorter the filament, the less resistance.

A filament with greater resistance allows the movement of fewer watts, and therefore produces less light.

A filament with smaller resistance allows the movement of more power and therefore produces more light.

Have you always wondered about the scientific explanation for ordinary phenomena? Now you can get an answer. Mail your question to TELL ME WHY, c/o Jerusalem Post Science & Technology Reporter Judy Siegel-Itzkovich, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, 91000 Jerusalem, or fax it to (02) 389527. Please include your first name and place of residence. Calls will not be accepted.

Doctors disagree on need for vitamin supplements for elderly

HEALTH SCAN

POST HEALTH REPORTER

THE diets of many old people are lacking in vitamins important to their health, but doctors disagree about the need for vitamin supplements for the elderly.

In the US, where Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDA) of nutrients are well publicized, as many as 70 percent of old people take vitamin pills, compared to about 40% in Europe and only 10% in Israel.

Three biochemists at the agriculture faculty of the Hebrew University in Rehovot examine the problem of vitamin deficiency among old people in a recent issue of *HaRefuah*, the journal of the Israel Medical Association.

Felicia Stern, Yosef Dror and Avraham Eliraz note that 11% of the population here are over 65. Local studies have found deficiency of three important vitamins in 22% of a sample of middle-class elderly people living independently and 14% of those living in institutions. This deficiency can cause or worsen chronic diseases.

Research at Mt. Sinai Hospital in New York concluded that the elderly should get less Vitamin A (it tends to be stored in the body of older people and is less needed because of a slower metabolism); more Vitamin D (because of less exposure to the sun, which helps

the body produce it naturally); more Vitamin B₁₂ (to strengthen the nervous and immune systems); and more Vitamin B₆ (due to poor absorption in the intestine).

Lack of vitamins reflect a poor diet. This can result from inability to shop regularly for a wide variety of nutritional food, poor appetite, dental problems and the effects of drugs on nutrient absorption.

Nevertheless, local health authorities have not yet conducted comprehensive research into this problem. Given the aging of the population, they recommend that studies be conducted to examine the scope of the problem and to produce an Israeli version of the RDA suited to local needs and life-styles.

DEADLINE APPROACHING

All those who want to switch health funds must inform their present and future insurers by March 31 if they want to make the change before the end of 1995.

Transfers may be carried out on January 1 and July 1 of each year, but to do so the applicant must present forms by March 31 and September 30 — three months in advance.

The national health insurance law, which came into effect on January 1, allows residents to switch insurers if they were members of a health fund for the previous year. The three-month waiting period is needed so that



How nutritious is this meal? Many elderly don't get the vitamins they need. (Pashkov)

the health funds can inform the National Insurance Institute of changes; the NII distributes health taxes according to a capitation system, based on the number of members and their ages.

INTERNAL CLOCK

MAY TICK IN BLIND

Some blind people use light to regulate their internal clocks, even though they lack visual perception. This finding, reported in the latest issue of the *New England Journal of Medicine*, suggests that eyes serve vital functions other than sight.

Harvard researchers found that four of the 11 blind subjects

they studied had "internal clocks" that worked properly.

This internal mechanism released the neurotransmitter melatonin when it was dark and suppressed it when light was directed into their eyes. They likened the two functions of the eyes to the ears, which are used for both hearing and balance.

Charles Czeisler, the lead investigator in the study, said the finding could change the way totally blind people are treated. There are some 100,000 completely blind people in the US.

Many surgeons recommend they have their eyes removed for either cosmetic or medical reasons. But the Harvard researchers now insist these patients should first be evaluated to see whether their eyes perceive light in a manner that supports a normal sleep-wake schedule.

They also recommended that the blind reconsider their use of dark glasses, which keep most light out.

PURITY SERVICE

IN JERUSALEM

Jerusalem's Bikur Holim Hospital has opened a highly unusual service for religious women and their rabbis, whom women consult to find out whether menstrual spotting has made them ritually "unclean."

Its gynecology department has opened a "family purity service." Open Sundays through Thursdays from two hours before sunset until sunset and on Friday

mornings, the service is manned by experienced Orthodox nurses who have been specially trained to advise on whether a vaginal discharge constitutes menstruation that renders them unclean.

The service is supervised by rabbis and run in cooperation with Machon Pnash (the Organization for Fertility and Medicine According to Halacha). The gynecology department is also specially geared for dealing with the halachic problems involved in fertility treatments.

POLAR BEARS

FOR ASTHMATICS

Teddy bears cuddled by children with asthma or other breathing problems should be stored in the freezer before they are taken to bed, according to recommendations by British experts.

The low temperature will kill the dust mites which live on cuddly toys; these microscopic bugs can trigger asthma attacks.

"We are warning parents there is absolutely no point in spending a lot of money on special bedding for an asthmatic child if the teddy bear is full of mites," Dr. Jill Warner of Southampton University's pediatric health department told Reuters. "Putting the bear in the freezer for 24 hours kills the mites. Give the bear back to the child, and, after a week, repeat the process."

She also advised washing teddy bears after freezing to get rid of the dead mites, as their remains can also cause allergic reactions.

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For a special inquiry

THE recent revelation in the Aryeh Deri trial is shocking indeed. Moshe Weinberg, one of the defendants, was heard declaring on a taped telephone conversation recorded four years ago that operatives of the General Security Service had given him the list of suspects being wiretapped by the police. This was not an idle bit of bragadocio. Weinberg listed the location and number of bugs, the names of those listening, telephone numbers, and other details.

On Thursday, the outgoing head of the GSS indignantly denied the allegation. He said that such leaks must have come from the police, the only other agency with knowledge of taps. Clearly, the thought that there are corrupt and disloyal workers in the country's most sensitive security agency, who divulge secret and classified information, is uncomfortable for the GSS chief to contemplate.

The scandal is potentially far worse than a case of a few "bad apples," for the simple reason that this astonishing revelation, though made four years ago, has never been investigated. The police brass were informed of Weinberg's allegations as soon as he made them, and the Attorney-General's Office knew of them two years later. Yet not a finger has been lifted to find and apprehend the culprits and - at the least - remove them from the GSS or the police.

The State Attorney's office claims that no such investigation was warranted. Its spokeswoman said on Thursday that there had been "rumors" that the defendants knew they were being bugged, but there was no evidence to substantiate them. This beggars credulity. Weinberg's detailed knowledge of bugging authorizations, procedures, and names of suspects provide more than sufficient reason for an investigation. In fact, the information is so

impressive that its source may be a high-ranking official in the GSS or the police, not just a low-ranking worker. The public can hardly be blamed for suspecting that the absence of an investigation is not merely a result of sloppiness and negligence, but a deliberate attempt at a cover-up.

It is comforting to know that a group of Knesset members, from both coalition and opposition, deems the inaction of the State Attorney's Office unacceptable. Limor Livnat (Likud), Haggai Merom (Labor), Dedi Zucker (Meretz), and Modi Zandberg (Tsimet) have stated that "What is revealed in these tapes is indeed frightening. It is imperative that an investigation be held to clear the suspicions they create, which imply that there is an underground connection, established in the midst of an investigation and intended to undermine it, between the most sensitive junctions of the GSS or the police and persons suspected of felonies."

These are grave accusations indeed, compounded by the fact that the two agencies involved are also those responsible for investigating such charges. Clearly, the only way to keep the investigation untainted is by appointing an independent judge who would act as a special prosecutor empowered to conduct his own investigation.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal has asked Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz to inquire why the police have neglected the matter for four years. "The whole story seems puzzling to me," Shahal said. "I want to stress that no person or institution is above the law." But if he wishes to be credible, he should demand the appointment of a special prosecutor, not let the police embark on an in-house inquiry. What is at stake is nothing less than the nation's trust in its government.

Reasonable enemies

THE peace process for Northern Ireland has coincidentally developed with that in the Middle East, but the way in which the parties in one of Europe's oldest conflicts are conducting themselves should give cause for much envy in this region. It is unremarkable that two democratic governments in Dublin and London should be making steady progress in their negotiations to map a new future for the troubled northern province. But it is the Northern Irish extremists who provide an object lesson in responsible behavior for their counterparts here - especially in the keeping of their pledge to halt violence.

The British government first refused to discuss the demands of the Republican side in the north until the IRA ceased its 20-year-old campaign against British targets. In September, the IRA finally agreed to a complete cessation of violence. Dublin immediately established a "national peace forum" and Gerry Adams, head of Sinn Féin, the political wing of the armed IRA, was invited to meet Irish premier Albert Reynolds for the first time. After a brief test of the IRA's pledge, armed Unionist militias joined the cease-fire.

Unlike the PLO here, the IRA and the Unionists have kept their word, they speak plainly in the same language to both supporters and opponents and, while not changing their political objectives, they show every sign of developing

the negotiating process in good faith. One early breach of the cease-fire by rogue gunmen on a robbery was admitted and apologized for by the IRA without excuses. London in turn kept its word in December by holding historic Sinn Féin-British and Unionist-British talks, and by pulling troops off northern city streets.

The fruits of a return to reasonable behavior all round was delivered last week by Prime Ministers John Major and John Bruton when they unveiled a joint framework document for all parties to consider. The proposals include a cross-border body in Ireland with executive powers, and far-reaching proposals to amend London and Dublin's conflicting constitutional claims to the province - plus a chance in the future to unite Ireland if the northers want it. This is an effort to come closer to nationalist Sinn Féin aspirations. Unionists are promised that their link with Britain will remain until Northern Ireland votes against it.

Certainly there is a long way to go from here. The document will satisfy no one fully, but it is a good starting point. The main achievement so far is the responsible and serious demeanor of those who a year ago were operating as terrorists. It has often been noted here that Yasser Arafat is no Nelson Mandela as a statesman. That is a bit much to ask, but how different the security situation and the peace process might now be if he were even a Gerry Adams.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BITTER POLARIZATION

Sir, - The pros and cons of the Oslo-initiated peace process will be subject of legitimate debate until it has either succeeded or failed. Beyond debate, an undeniable fact is that it has polarized Israelis as they have never been polarized before. At least until the next election, it has effectively disenfranchised those Israelis who fear, and have reason to fear, that the Oslo process will lead, not to peace, but to war. And in defense of this disenfranchisement, the best that can be argued is that it is inevitable.

In contrast, no defense is possible of the program for the impending Jerusalem convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). If the prestigious organization of American Reform rabbis is to meet in Jerusalem at this critical time in which the fate of Jerusalem may be said, without exaggeration, to hang in the balance, the purpose can only be to identify with all Israel, to help reunite Israelis who are currently so bitterly polarized. In doing so, living as they do in America, they would do well to bear in mind that, if the current peace process fails, all Israelis will pay the price. Meanwhile, Palestinian terrorists do not discriminate, in murdering Jews, between supporters of Labor and Likud.

But the CCAR does not come to Jerusalem to help reunite Israelis. On the contrary, whether deliberately or not, the effect of its presence can only be - as if this were needed

- to give aid and comfort to the polarization of Israelis. This is indicated by its convention program. The visiting rabbis are willing to listen to Faisal Hussein, who has yet to prove that he really wants peace with Israel, but not Benjamin Netanyahu, whose credentials as a seeker after peace need not shun comparison with those of the current government.

EMIL L. FACKENHEIM
Jerusalem.

P.R. DISASTER

Sir, - The mild reproof given to Colonel Gershon Hacohen is totally unacceptable ("Shahak raps colonel," January 6). This man should not be in a position of authority over young people of either sex. His sexist attitude is an insult to women in general, and it is also an appalling role model for the young male soldiers in his command.

The IDF is not a private organization where people can leave if they find the boss objectionable. The young men and women soldiers who are compelled by law to serve with sexist like Colonel Hacohen have no choice in the matter. It is our responsibility to ensure that all are treated with respect and not subjected to indignity and abuse.

Whatever the colonel's technical abilities might be, his insensitivity will be causing a lot of disquiet amongst parents of recruits.

RONI FORMAN
Rishon LeZion.

KEEP THE CLOSURE

Sir, - The *shloshim* of the 21 murder victims of Beit Lid is barely over, yet our government is already starting to lift the closure. Why?

The government's first obligation is to the security of its own citizens. If the Palestinians, especially those from the Gaza Strip, are a threat to us, then we must keep them out. Not as a punishment, but for our own wellbeing. If we need extra workers, we must get them from elsewhere. Thais, Poles, Romanians will not stab their employers in the back, will not commit sabotage at their place of work.

We do not owe the Palestinians employment in Israel. We are not the world's conscience. The world was silent when Palestinians - many born in Kuwait - were thrown out of there. Why the fuss when we protect our own citizens?

Perhaps we may be more persuaded to take in Palestinian workers when we see other examples of goodwill to the less fortunate: when the US opens its border to the thousands of Mexicans who went to work north of the border, when Hong Kong will allow their fellow Chinese just across on the mainland to work in the thriving colony; when Germans will accept Poles to work on their side of the border, etc.

We must resist the "bleeding heart" liberals, who find Israel-bashing to be made so much easier by our own self-flagellation.

JOE FRANKL
Savoyon.



The lesser of two evils

JUDY Siegel-Itzkovich objects to "the growing sexualization and degradation of our two largest newspapers," *Ma'ariv* and *Yedioth Aharonot* ("A plague of media porn," *The Jerusalem Post*, February 12).

Religious conservatives, secular pruders, and puritanical feminists form an unholy alliance in the battle against "sexualization."

But sexualization has been going on throughout the West since the 1960s. Before that decade's "permissiveness," the mass media had barely advanced from the Victorian puritanism which insisted on covering piano legs, lest their nakedness promote lewd thoughts.

In 1960, London's celebrated *Lady Chatterley's Lover* trial highlighted the hypocrisy of the culture of repression. Prosecutors held that sexuality is permissible in the context of high culture (Michelangelo's David, to cite but one example), but should be censored in the realm of the masses. It was only when Lawrence's novel was published in paperback that it was charged with obscenity.

A few years ago, Robert Mapplethorpe's photo exhibition of men performing homosexual acts caused a storm in the US. Unlike the works of Michelangelo, Mapplethorpe's oeuvre does not enjoy the status of "classical art," so philistines could happily denounce it - not on the aesthetic grounds on which art demands to be judged, but on moral grounds. The artist was condemned in the strongest terms, as though art is not self-expression, but a didactic means for promoting the will of the majority.

In Britain, the broadsheets are always lambasting the tabloids for the latter's propensity to print pictures of topless women. For years, *The Sun* and other tabloids have been famous for their harmless series of such "page-three" photos.

DAVID ISAACSON

At the same time, hardly a day goes by when the sober, "quality" dailies don't run prominent page-three stories of their own about terrible rapes, or vicars defrocked for assaulting young boys.

While the former mass-market papers maintained the peculiarly British working man's tradition epitomized by "saucy" seaside postcards and more than 30 successful *Carry On* movies, the latter's policy betrayed a prurience endemic to the complaining classes.

Decadence and sex in the media are the price of freedom

IT IS not incumbent on newspapers to refuse to publish sex ads. Like everyone else, newspapers are in business to make money. Neither is it the brief of mass circulation papers to impart a "message." The media reflect the society in which they operate.

As Siegel-Itzkovich says, "publishers and journalists like to give a semblance at least of serving the public interest." The operative word is interest. The public has been interested in sex since Adam and Eve.

If newspapers refuse to print certain ads, it's because they don't want to lose advertisers and readers who would take offense. Were they to claim that moral criteria inform their decisions, it would be sheer humbug of an order matched only by governments seeking to win votes by claiming the moral high ground.

Neither governments nor the press should be moral arbiters - that way lies fascism. The hallmark of a free society is the freedom to pursue any pleasure that causes no harm to others.

There is no proof of a causal link between sexy pictures and rape. Do pictures of banks promote robbery? Do pictures of weapons promote insurance?

The writer makes the admirably broad-minded suggestion that if papers must have sex ads and call-girl listings, they ought to print special sex supplements.

But does the status quo really corrupt our morals, and those of our children? Do we really need this protection?

Prostitution is the world's oldest profession. Only in recent decades have feminists propagated the idea that it degrades women. If a person, of his or her own free will, decides to sell his or her body, it's nobody else's business, and certainly not the business of happily-partnered people lucky enough to enjoy loving sexual relationships.

An outlet for frustrated souls who have no more satisfactory way to gratify their needs might even reduce the incidence of sexual assault.

The issue of "sexualization" raises the question of Israel's moral identity.

In stark contrast to the terrible and backward intolerance of the Middle East's Moslem fundamentalists, Western civilization tolerates a certain degree of decadence as part of the price of freedom. Of course Israel is not a fully-fledged decadent nation like the US. But neither is it a theocracy.

In an ideal world, there would be neither prostitution nor crime, and *Am Yisrael* would live according to traditional Jewish values.

Judaism is surely the least decadent of all the great civilizations. But Israel is, and must be, a modern nation - with all the supplies, demands and meretricious values that implies.

The writer is a freelance journalist.

POSTSCRIPTS

THERE ONCE was a lady from London...

Edward Lear, the popular Victorian nonsense writer who devised the limerick, would have come up with a five-liner for this one: a London woman paid £2 at a jumble sale for a box of books that included an illustrated volume of Lear originals. The small volume later fetched £9,200 at an auction.

The anonymous woman only bought the box for the books at the top and got the shock of her life when she looked underneath.

The seven drawings are bound with 32 lithographic leaves of the first edition of Lear's first book, *A Book of Nonsense*, published in 1846.

Of seven drawings, four are previously unpublished and three, accompanying the verses called "An old person of Oude," "An old man whose Approach," and "An old lady of Joppa," are previously unknown.

FRIENDSVILLE MAYOR Spencer Schlosnagle can't seem to stop his compulsion to expose himself in public. Yet voters in his tiny town have looked the other way when marking their ballots.

Perhaps Schlosnagle's stellar record has overshadowed convictions for exposing himself on a highway and in a mall parking lot in the Maryland town of 577.

Schlosnagle, who won a fifth two-year term, is receiving counseling for his compulsion, which

he says stems from a sexual assault he endured as a teenager.

First elected at age 21, he has been such a success as mayor that even Joe Sessa, the barber who lost two elections to Schlosnagle and has asked him to resign, grudgingly admires him.

"I can't say he has ever been a bad mayor. Yes, he's done quite a bit for the town," Sessa says. "But as far as his private matters, I can't support that."

Schlosnagle was recently sentenced to 30 days in jail for exposing himself, the latest of a string of convictions.

Lena Lawson says her fellow Friendsvillagers seem to forget about the mayor's sexual proclivities at election time. "I lot of townspeople I've talked to are irate, but he keeps getting re-elected," she said. "That's what we can't figure out."

A SIX-YEAR-OLD boy and his sister, aged four, were lost for more than 20 days in Argentina's mountains roamed by pumas and wild boar - yet the children survived, by eating apples and drinking stream water.

The ordeal of Daniel and Romina Quispe began when they went out to look for their parents who had failed to return from tending their flocks in the northern Jujuy province.

The children got lost and wandered 100 kilometers through subtropical mountains, eventually taking shelter in a ruined hut where they were found in such an

advanced state of dehydration and malnutrition that Romina could not walk.

"Apples were the only tasty food there was, so we ate them all day," Daniel told the 50-man search party that discovered the children. "Sometimes we were still hungry, but there wasn't much to eat among all the plants."

PRICES FOR coveted lapdogs are crashing in Beijing as city fathers debate exorbitant license fees.

"It doesn't matter how good the dog or how low the price, they aren't moving," a dog peddler at a once thriving black market said. "We can't even give them away."

City officials began debating a draft law that would permit dog ownership - but with sharp restrictions. The draft includes an annual licensing fee of 6,000 yuan (\$700) which, at more than double China's average annual urban income, appears to be depressing the dog market.

Snowy white Pekinese that just a few months ago would have fetched over 20,000 yuan (\$2,350) are difficult to sell for 500 yuan (\$60).

Pet monkey prices are said to be soaring, because monkey ownership would not be affected by the law.

Dogs bit 52,000 people in Beijing last year and 89 people died of rabies between 1988 and 1993, according to official figures used to support the restrictions.

A real turn-off

HARVEY EDINOFF

REMEMBER All in the Family? Twenty-year-old installments of this TV sitcom can be seen every night on Cable TV's Channel 6. Some younger viewers must be puzzled by its "topical" gags. After all, they weren't born till after the show ceased production.

The Movie Channel shows us ancient "B" movies, the Family Channel gives us an endless supply of subtitled American soaps, and the satellite channels are of no interest to the average Israeli viewer.

For all these bounties we have to thank ICP, the joint programming company owned by four of the five licensed cable operators. And ICP has to thank the Israeli legal system for continuing to allow it to operate more than a year after Judge Miriam Naor ordered it to be wound up.

The facts in a nutshell: In 1991, the cable operators formed ICP as their joint programming arm, and began simultaneous country-wide broadcasts of four channels - Movie, Family, Children and Sports.

In 1992, the Israeli Antitrust Authority, the cartels' watchdog, deemed ICP to be a cartel, but entered into a temporary agreement allowing it to operate for a period of three years, expiring this month. However, the temporary agreement required court approval, and in January 1994, the court decided not to approve the agreement, ordering ICP to be wound up.

Cable programmers are denying viewers value for money

The joint purchasing power of ICP cuts the cost of programming, and the court said that this saving had not been passed back to the cable subscribers, but instead was being enjoyed by the operators.

Of course the decision was appealed, and here we are, a year later, with ICP still operating, and the next court session scheduled for April.

The new Antitrust Authority director, Dr. Yoram Torbovitz, has now entered into a new temporary agreement with ICP, which again will need court approval.

TORBOVITZ set three conditions for his approval of the new agreement: that the fees charged to subscribers not be increased other than by linkage to the cost-of-living index; that ICP create a new science, culture and religion channel; and that the operators deposit with a trustee the sum of \$12.5m. annually, ultimately for the subscribers' benefit.

Israel's Channel 1 and Channel 2 authorities and others have entered objections to the agreement - and we're back where we started. If the decision in April goes against ICP, there will be further appeals and counter-appeals. It could go on for years.

Torbovitz could have asked for a lot more from the cable operators. When spread over the current 800,000 cable subscribers, \$12.5m. annually comes out at a measly NIS 4 per subscriber, per month. The obligation to create a new channel was in the original licenses granted to the operators in 1991, but it wasn't honored.

As for the subscribers' fees, most subscribers already feel that they are paying through the nose for a poor service - particularly as the operators pay nothing for the majority of the channels they broadcast.

In Canada, licenses granted to cable operators require them to devote a substantial portion of their income to financing locally-produced films and TV programs, for broadcast on prime time. They also have to contribute significantly to funds for local script development. This leads to some pretty good Canadian films, benefiting the local industry as well as viewers.

Compare this to the dearth and dismal quality of locally-produced shows here, and think what a difference another few million dollars would make, applied in the same way. Torbovitz should have made this a condition of allowing ICP to continue.

With an annual income of around \$300,000,000, the cable operators can well afford to be more generous.

The writer is active in the local film industry.

AMERICAN OUTLOOK

Sunday, February 26, 1995



Peso crisis pushes Mexico to the brink

Even well-informed, patriotic Mexicans feel the U.S. government has not done their country any favors since it continues to turn its back on corruption. Financial bailout of Mexico is not the only answer to all of its problems.

BY ROBERT NOVAK

MEXICO CITY - The aura of fear and pessimism that dominates this capital city is only enhanced by the perception that the financial bailout offered to Mexico by the Clinton administration will not end this country's crisis and may well deepen it.

During a reporting trip last week, I found no optimism that the Clinton plan will restore the international confidence that died 60 days ago when the peso was devalued. Rather, the United States is telling the Mexicans that they will have to count on years of austerity, with zero or negative economic growth. Mexicans call that a Yankee prescription for depression.

This country is on the brink. Thousands of workers are being laid off. Demonstrators are in the streets. The banking system is shaky. Law and order is threatened, while drug traffickers cement their power. President Ernesto Zedillo, just two months in office, is universally derided for his failure to lead.

The businessmen, intellectuals, politicians, journalists and even government officials who talked to me would not go on the record, but all agreed: Mexico's 65 years of one-party rule is ending, and no one knows what will follow. Pessimists

talk about a military-backed strongman, civil war or national insurrection. Optimists say they do not know but fear the worst.

The Potemkin village of a progressive, prosperous Mexico, erected to pass the North American Free Trade Agreement, was ripped away by the peso devaluation. Bankers and businessmen here disagree with the government's contention that it was unavoidable. They argue that the country's trade deficit, cited as the reason to devalue, was appropriate for a developing country.

International confidence in Mexico began to drop when Zedillo replaced celebrated reformer Pedro Aspe as finance minister, and devaluation accelerated the process. Feb. 15 was Black Wednesday here, not so much because the Bolsa

Mexico needs much more than a strengthened peso to escape from the brink

(Mexico's stock exchange) collapsed and the peso fell to a new low, but because the tourism corporation Sidek defaulted on a debt payment. With international creditors saying no to such companies, the country's economy is in peril.

Desperate to re-establish confidence, proud Mexicans submit to Washington's demands for austerity and U.S. oversight. They hope the \$50 billion Clinton package will end the financial world's run against Mexico but surely do not predict it.

The beneficiaries will be holders of tescobonos, Mexican debt instruments sold for pesos to be redeemed in dollars. Thus, it is not Mexico being bailed out; it is rich American investors. That contributes to growing rage here. Furthermore, there is no component for economic growth. Under Washington's required austerity, it will be impossible to run the trade deficit necessary for economic growth.

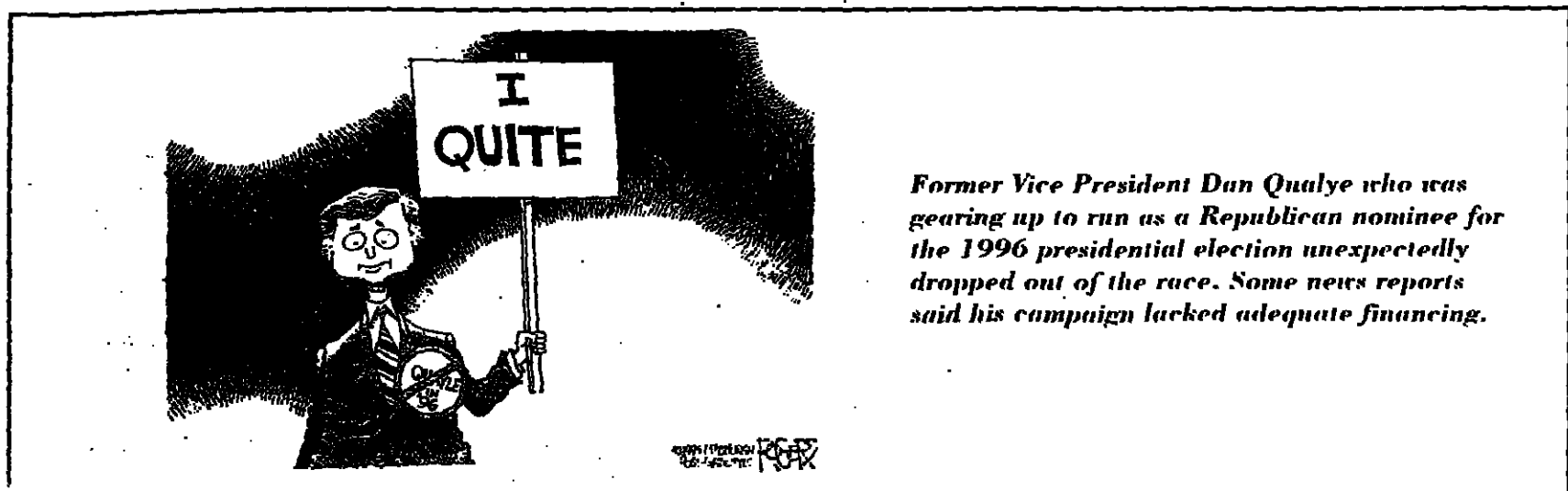
The alternative to this disaster would be the proposal voiced on the Senate floor Feb. 9 by Sen. Robert Bennett. Bennett would use a Federal Reserve dollar purchase of pesos to soak up the Mexican currency and revalue it upward.

A revaluation could arrest the economic disaster under way. All sides in Washington may view this as essentially a financial crisis, but nobody in Mexico City does. After years of denial by Mexico's rulers and their U.S. counterparts, this country's political system is sick unto death.

The well-informed, patriotic Mexicans I saw here feel the U.S. government has done them no favors by turning its back on continued corruption, the tightened link between drug cartels and the government and the absence of real political dialogue. Mexico needs much more than a strengthened peso to escape from the brink.

Robert Novak is a nationally syndicated columnist of the Chicago Sun-Times.

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Former Vice President Dan Quayle who was gearing up to run as a Republican nominee for the 1996 presidential election unexpectedly dropped out of the race. Some news reports said his campaign lacked adequate financing.

Cyber wars make for invisible fence

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

"I've said all along this is not written in stone." — Newt Gingrich on the Contract with America

Actually, Gingrich has been saying that only since January. Before that, he was saying things like, "If we don't do what we say we'll do, then the people have a right to throw us out." Hence, perhaps, the term "contract."

Gingrich's retroactive disclaimer appeared last week in a New York Times article headlined "GOP facing some obstacles after fast start." Indeed, the main obstacle is that it's hard to cut taxes, raise defense spending, protect Social Security and still move toward a balanced budget by 2002 without sustaining severe political damage. Wet-blanket Democrats have been noting this since November. Now Republicans are getting the picture.

Witness House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich. Kasich is known for proposing serious budget cuts, and doing so with an ingenuous, at times charming, optimism. He is like a golden retriever, endearing both in his enthusiasm and in his seeming indifference to how few people share it. But now, no longer a back-bencher, he finds his words being taken seriously. And suddenly he seems to be wearing one of those "invisible fence" collars that deliver a shock when dogs approach forbidden terrain. The list of tough budget cuts he was going to unveil by late January has been put off until — oh, sometime this spring, he says. And, asked recently what sort of hits Medicare recipients are in for, the man known for urging painful sacrifice replied, "Well, frankly, what I hope we will be able to do is to convince people that we have a system that's going to allow them to have some choice, to be able to get the delivery of services they want at lesser prices." Did he say, "Frankly"?

Kasich's "invisible fence" collar is an example of "hyperdemocracy" — an electronic feedback link between politicians and constituents so intimate that it short-circuits deliberative, representative democracy.

Hyperdemocracy consists partly in the technological empowerment of special interests. Computerized mass mail, for example, has boosted the size of the American Association of Retired Persons and sharpened its reflexes. The push of a button sends rabble-rousing letters to millions of voters. Kasich's reticence is grounded in rational fear of the result — an uproar that could slow congressional budget-cutting momentum.

There is a second variant of hyperdemocracy: the electronic plebiscite, in which phone polls, talk radio, etc., render an instant, sometimes uninformed national opinion that Washington slavishly obeys.

It has been suggested — by pundit Mickey Kaus of the New Republic magazine — that hyperdemocracy is no real problem. He notes that the first, special-interest, variant favors political minorities, while the second, plebiscitary variant favors majorities. Thus hyperdemocracy is internally "contradictory"; majorities may electronically "cancel out" special interests.

Certainly one can imagine structural tinkering that would encourage this. But the tinkering Kaus champions — the line-item veto — is flawed. It implausibly asks the president to play martyr, and alone incur the wrath of many special interests. A better idea would be to let the president send any line item back to congress for a simple majority vote, innocently asking legislators if most of their constituents really favor this particular special interest. One by one, hunks of pork could be killed.

Unfortunately deputizing the majority gets trickier once we come to the real budget-busters: middle-class tax cuts, Social Security, Medicare. Here a plebiscite may help "special interests," because they're huge. Most Americans are middle-class taxpayers. Most will someday get Social Security or Medicare, and many get them now.

This is one problem with the hallowed distinction in political rhetoric between "the people" and "special interests." Kasich, for example, denounces selfish special interests but insists that the people are prepared to sacrifice. Nonsense. The Republicans' own pollster, Frank Luntz, wrote in a memo that most Americans think the budget can be balanced by cutting "waste, fraud and abuse." Luntz does claim (with a straight face) that most people are willing to "make sacrifices" — but only so long as they don't "pay higher taxes or see their services cut." He advises, "If we talk about pain, we lose." Luntz's poll is the second variant of hyperdemocracy — majority sentiment, electronically gathered and rapidly sent to policy makers. It's thus evidence that the two variants aren't benignly "contradictory."

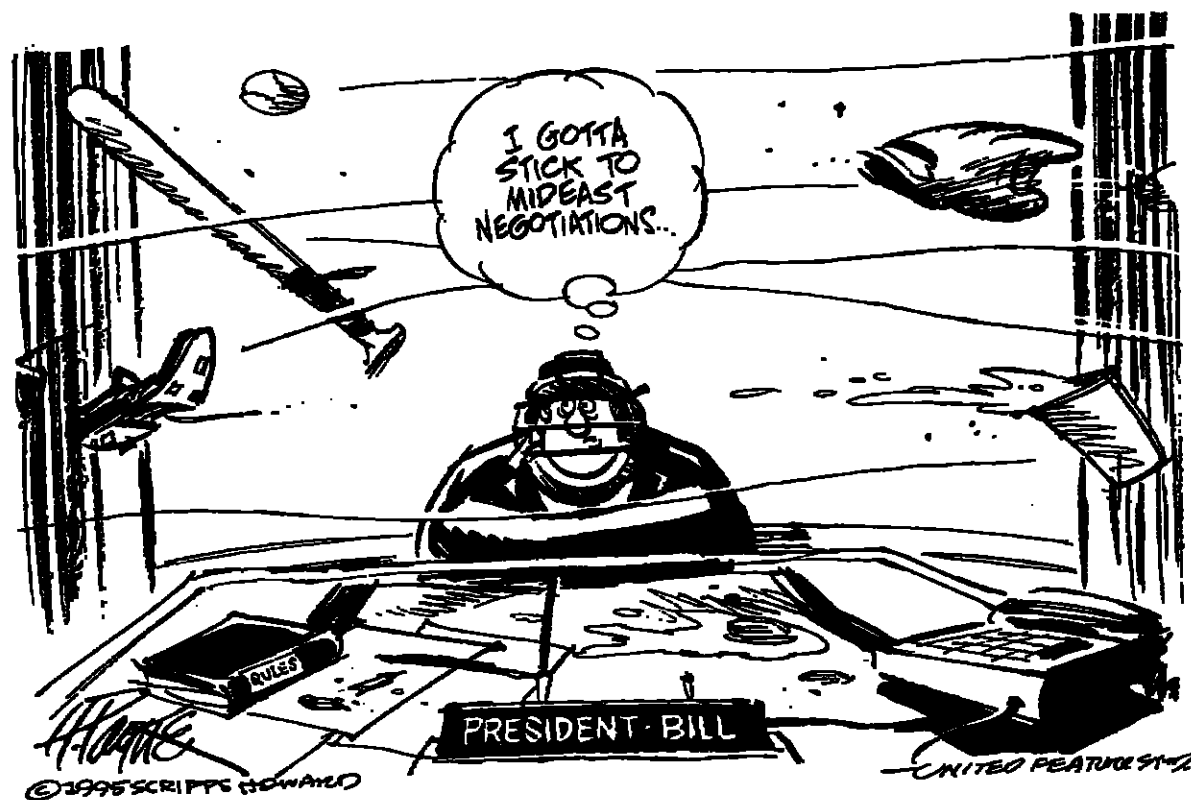
Technology can help solve the problems it creates — just not easily. The electorate can grasp that it is the special interests, and might even abide by the implications of this fact, if some compelling leader used T.V. to lay them out. But who? Presumably not Gingrich, with his longstanding dishonesty on the budget.

Granted, the Democrats have also been dishonest: they, too, obey their "invisible fence" collars. But it's the Republicans who have charged into town with such smugness, promising a "revolutionary" break with the past. And it's the Republicans who chose to etch their dishonesty in stone.

Robert Wright is a senior editor of The New Republic.

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EDITORIAL CARTOONS



Frankly incensed

BY WESTON KOSOVA

When Barney Frank thinks of Newt Gingrich, he thinks show tunes. "You know what his theme song should be?" Frank asks, setting up for the strike. "The song from My Fair Lady. 'Don't Talk of Love, Show Me.' Don't talk of ideas, have one. See, Gingrich has no ideas. The quality of the thought is third-rate. Literally, there is no substantive issue on which anyone regards him as an authority."

Frank is not merely hostile to the new House speaker. He loathes him. Gingrich is "vicious," "unprincipled." Mention his name and Frank's mood visibly darkens. "Gingrich is interested only in power," he sneers, his hands fiddling nervously with the broken stem of his reading glasses. But there's also in this vituperation a spark of delight. As much as Frank spews disdain for both Republican rules and rulers, he's clearly loving his newfound freedom to jeer at their idiocies. It was Frank who led the campaign against Christina Jeffery, Gingrich's ill-fated choice for House historian, saying she had an "offensive nutsy streak." It was Frank who hounded the speaker for his refusal to make House members give up their frequent-flyer miles. (In trying to wriggle free, Gingrich has flip-flopped on the issue three times. He now says he'll let members use the free miles to fly their relatives to Washington.) And it was Frank who tried to force the Republicans, before passing a balanced budget amendment, to publish a plan detailing how they would do it. Minority Leader Richard Gephardt and Minority Whip David Bonior may have the lofty titles, but Frank has stepped in as the true leader of the opposition.

"He's indispensable," raves fellow Democrat Jim McDermott of Washington. "Any leader needs people like Barney who can go out on point and make decisions without instructions." Frank himself is characteristically blunt about life in the minority. "It's never been easy for me to think of myself as part of a natural majority," he says. "I cannot think of any basic characteristic where I'm in the majority. I'm gay. I'm Jewish. I'm male. I'm even left-handed."

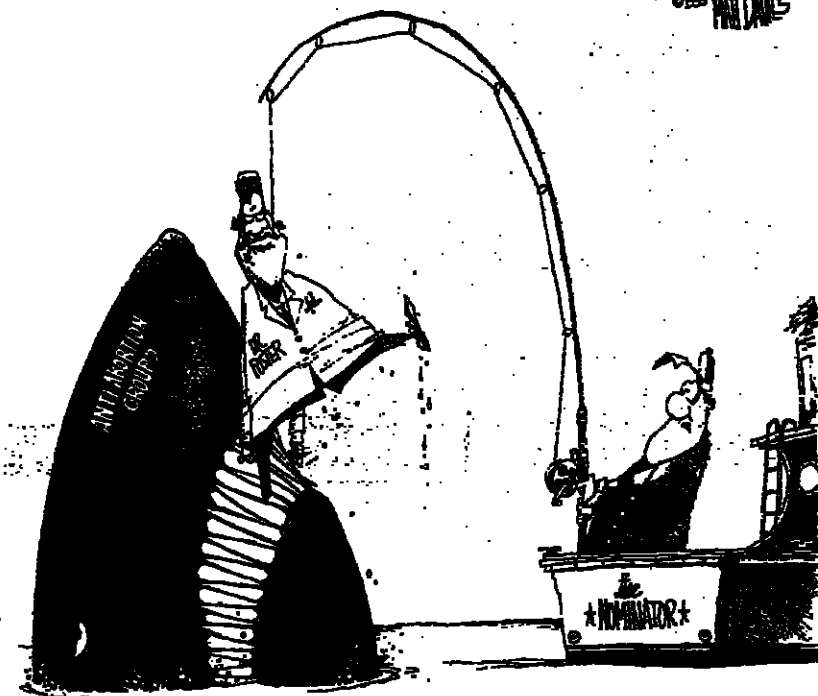
The first characteristic on Frank's list is the source of his acute hatred of Gingrich. Frank becomes livid when he discusses the speaker's dismissal of gay rights. "He has one of the most consistently anti-gay records in the Congress," Frank fumes. "When three members of the House in 1994 said they would never hire a gay person under any circumstances, and some of us criticized them, he defended them. When Dee Mosbacher, the lesbian daughter of Robert Mosbacher, got her father to meet with National Gay and Lesbian Task Force people in 1992, nine Republican members of the House wrote him a letter and denounced him. One of those members was Gingrich. In 1990, in Colorado, he said liberals are responsible for the spread of AIDS because we oppose contract tracing." He omits one count: At Frank's lowest moment, in 1989, a male prostitute Frank once hired was found

to have worked out of Frank's apartment, Gingrich led the unsuccessful fight to censure him.

Now it's Frank's turn to have at Gingrich. His sudden visibility is by design, not accident. Just before the start of the new session, Gephardt and Bonior approached Frank and asked him to lead the floor fight against the Republican agenda. "The Democrats needed someone who could give the Republicans a good tongue-lashing," says an aide to a senior House Democrat. "Gephardt doesn't move people. David Bonior is getting better. But Barney's in a whole different league." As fellow Massachusetts Democrat Edward Markey puts it: "He's one of the few members who, when he takes to the floor, causes people all over the Capitol to turn up the volume on their T.V.s to see what he's saying. In almost every speech there's a line that will get to the heart of the argument."

Frank placed himself squarely on the side of winning back the middle class, of restoring the Democrats' reputation as defenders of normal Americans.

That is Frank's plan for the minority. "First of all, we'll highlight the Republicans' extremism on things like abortion," he says. On economic issues, it'll be the trusty standard of class warfare. "It's not going to be popular to do those upper-level tax cuts, and I think we win on that. On the other hand, we use up some political capital trying to defend legal immigrants and welfare recipients, which is our moral obligation." In the coming months, House Democrats will also push to tax the top 12 percent of Social Security recipients and to fold a minimum-wage hike into the emerging welfare reform bill. Meanwhile, Frank drills away on another pet project: military downsizing. "This notion that we have to be able to fight



THE PRESIDENT CONTEMPLATES HIS FIRST "LINE ITEM" VETO...

Frank has another quality that the Democrats need in their battle with Newt: He's mean. After seven terms in the House, Frank is still utterly without patience or talent for social niceties. Ask him a question and he's just as likely to ridicule you as to answer it. He's renowned for snapping at reporters, Capitol aides, panelists before his committees. At a recent at a Judiciary subcommittee hearing on property rights, Roger Pilon of the Cato Institute made the mistake of posing a question to Frank. "Mr. Pilon," Frank barked, "this is called a congressional hearing. I ask the questions. You give the answers." Hill staffers describe Frank variously as "rude," "abrasive," "charmless," "intimidating" and a "phone-slammer." He was perfect for the job.

The strategy that Gephardt, Bonior and Frank have pieced together borrows heavily from Frank's 1992 manifesto. Speaking Frankly: What's Wrong with the Democrats and How to Fix It. (Frank was paid a \$50,000 advance for the book. He was strangely silent about Gingrich's multi-million-dollar book deal.) In the book, Frank argued that the party had fallen prey to the vestiges of '60s-style radicalism, alienating mainstream voters. Coming from a liberal member of the party, the critique carried weight. "Liberal Democrats have suffered from our association with — and occasional defense of — the angry, disruptive protesters of the '60s and '70s and their heirs," he wrote. "That is why Democrats have lost five of the last six presidential contests."

two full-scale wars simultaneously, by ourselves, while at the same time deterring the Russians in a nuclear way is nonsense," he says. "The Russians can't beat Chechnya."

Frank knows his chances of eviscerating the military are nil and that even suggesting it is hugely unpopular. But it doesn't matter. In the minority, he has the luxury of launching whatever outlandish schemes he can think of.

Frank is biding his time until the first 100 days are up and the Republicans are faced with the bill for their agenda.

"Remember, the contract is made up of items the Republicans preselected because they are very popular," he says. "But soon they're going to run through the contract. And then they're going to have to do appropriations and taxes. And it will get harder and harder for them."

Frank, for one, will make sure of it.

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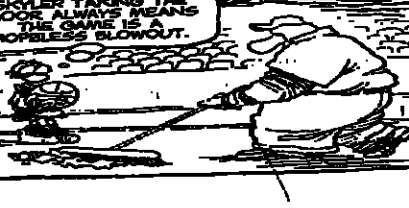
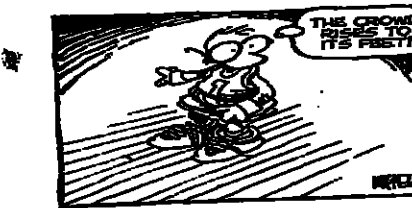
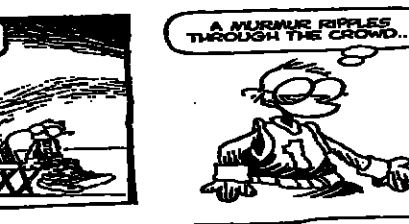
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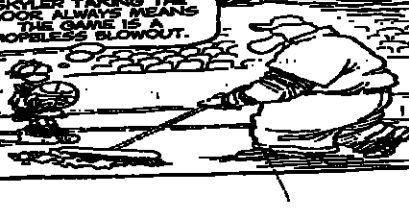
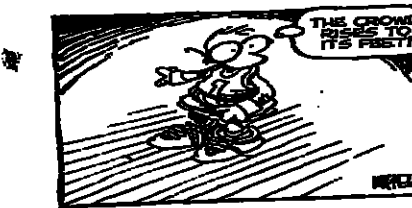
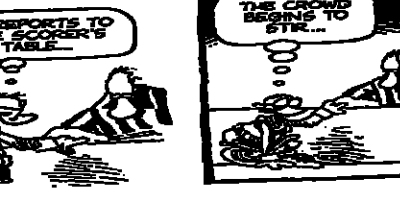
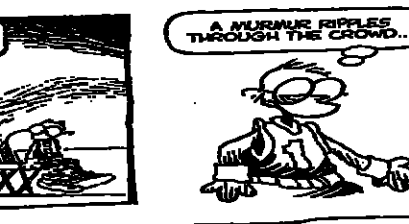
PEANUTS

by SCHULZ



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By JEFF MEYER

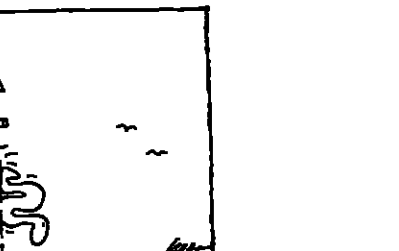
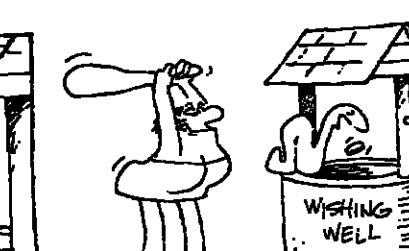
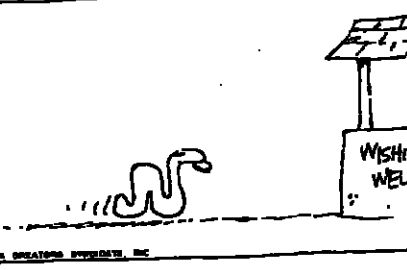
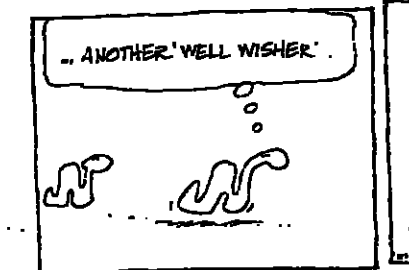
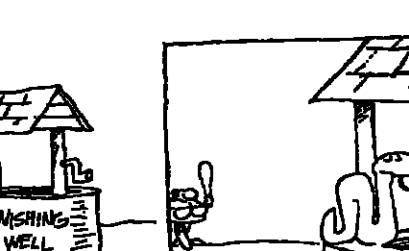


CALVIN HOBBS

by BEEBE



BY JOHNNY HART



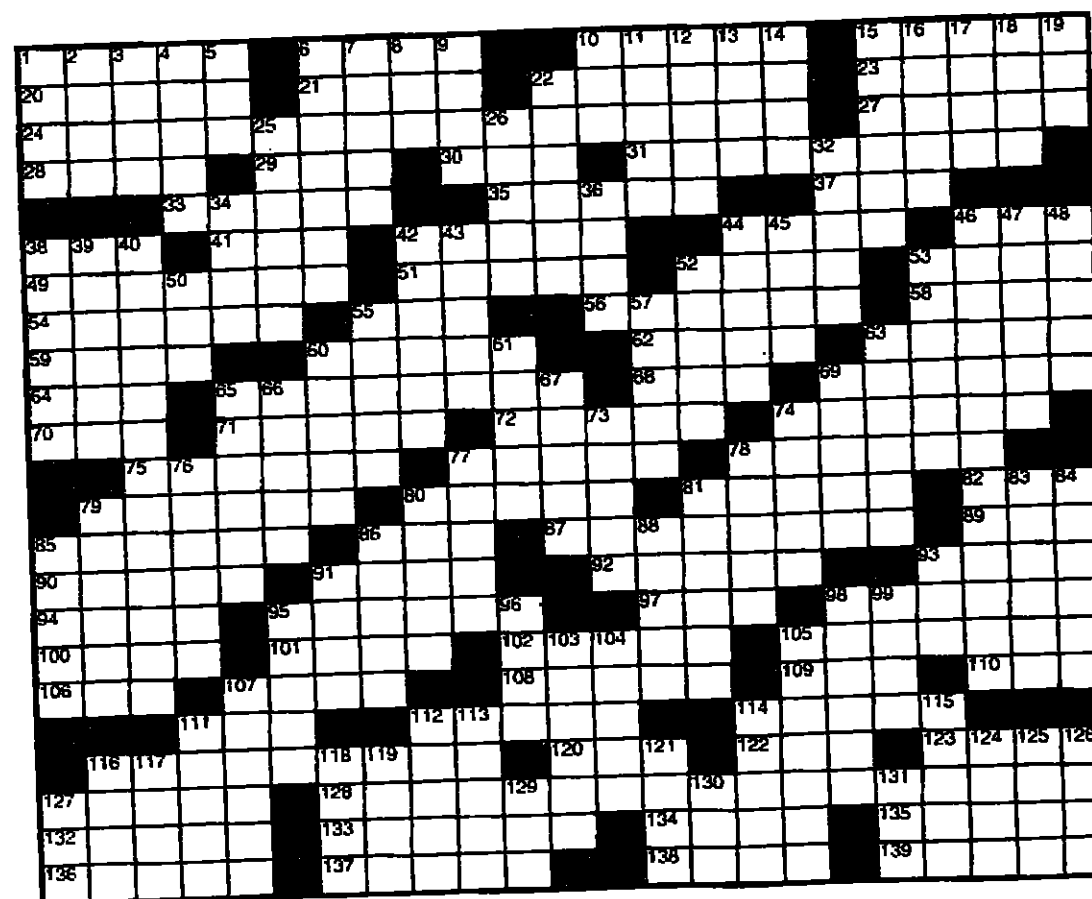
TODAY'S SUNDAY PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 1 Iowa or Montana
- 6 Judicial proceedings
- 10 Light refractor
- 15 Spud
- 20 Actor Peter
- 21 Run away
- 22 Afternoon nap
- 23 Nautical cry
- 24 "Fools rush in where angels fear to tread"
- 27 Rich cake
- 28 Lowly worker
- 29 Coach Paraguan
- 30 "the ramparts"
- 31 Its capital is Buenos Aires
- 33 Eagle's claw
- 35 Lead and tin alloy
- 37 Ancient
- 38 Scottish cap
- 41 Storage crib
- 42 Analyze a sentence
- 44 Solitary
- 46 Mayday
- 49 Apparent
- 51 Cheer up
- 52 Domesticated
- 53 Soil
- 54 Small
- 55 Barbara — Geddes
- 56 the Frog
- 58 China's continent
- 59 Top of the head
- 60 "Embraced by the Light" author
- 62 Give up (a job)
- 63 Change
- 64 And so on, abbr.
- 65 Sweet pepper var.
- 68 "Born in the —"
- 69 Calf
- 70 Antique car
- 71 Old three-handed card game
- 72 Attacked

DOWN

- 1 Hockey shot
- 2 Musical sound
- 3 Jason's ship
- 4 English river
- 5 Snake-like fish
- 6 Insult
- 7 Not dirty
- 8 Afternoon social
- 9 Flying prefix
- 10 Cherry center
- 11 Showed again
- 12 French river
- 13 For men only
- 14 Constructed
- 15 Spill the beans
- 16 Stay away from
- 17 Mountain lake
- 18 This: Sp.
- 19 Map abbr.
- 20 Most painful to the touch
- 21 Sissy
- 22 Aquarium fish
- 23 Group of nine voices
- 24 Help a criminal
- 25 Small body
- 26 Disposition
- 27 Fly a plane
- 28 In — like new
- 29 Carolina river
- 30 Very tired
- 31 Female demon
- 32 Leave out
- 33 Vatican part
- 34 The East
- 35 Look foolish
- 36 Payable
- 37 Faith
- 38 Home of the Cowboys
- 39 Puppeter B.I.
- 40 Pest
- 41 Implant
- 42 "Frame"
- 43 Make fizzy
- 44 Type of tree
- 45 Drive forward
- 46 Western movie
- 47 slang
- 48 Released
- 49 Went out with
- 50 Moslem deity
- 51 Clever
- 52 Tiled
- 53 Non-believer
- 54 Moon rocket
- 55 Derby drink
- 56 Coating
- 57 Do a favor for
- 58 rule
- 59 Hit play
- 60 Georgia city
- 61 Sister's daughter
- 62 Greek letter
- 63 Obtain
- 64 Appressed
- 65 German river
- 66 Gutter
- 67 Horse color
- 68 Identifying uniform
- 69 "A Bell for —"
- 70 Sowed
- 71 Sound system
- 72 "we all"
- 73 Cruise ship
- 74 Horatio —
- 75 Move like a crab
- 76 Concur
- 77 on low
- 78 Andy's friend
- 79 Prefix for "white"
- 80 Disgusting
- 81 Atmosphere
- 82 Upper floor
- 83 Consumer
- 84 Beginner
- 85 Bottle top
- 86 Inmate
- 87 Turn down slang
- 88 "To — is human"



Republicans' contract taxes poor and wicked

By WILLIAM SALETAN

Does Newt Gingrich believe in social engineering? On page 75 of the Republicans' Contract with America, Gingrich and his colleagues argue that, when it comes to welfare reform, "It's time to change the incentives and make responsible parenthood the norm and not the exception." To discourage welfare babies, the contract "prohibits AFDC payments and housing benefits to mothers under age 18 who give birth to out-of-wedlock children." It authorizes states to extend this ban to any woman under 21. It also abolishes the "increase in benefits" for adult single women who bear children while on the dole. In sum, the government should use welfare policy to discourage poor women from having children.

Ten pages later, the Republicans propose a different class of incentives for a different class of parents. For "families with annual incomes up to \$200,000," they offer a "\$500-per-child tax credit, to make raising children a little more affordable." The contract also offers a special tax rebate for wedded couples, on the grounds that "the government should reward, not punish, those who enter into the sacred bonds of marriage." In sum, the government should use tax policy to reward rich and middle-class families for having children.

You don't have to be as smart as Gingrich to see the irony. If you're single and on welfare, the Republicans want to fine you for having kids. If you're pulling down a six-figure salary, they want to compensate you.

And the irony goes deeper: While promising to end "government that is too big, too intrusive," the contract proposes, in its fine print, "to change the incentives" by using tax and welfare policies to reward some behaviors and discourage others. Conservatives used to have a name for such schemes: social engineering.

While the contract doesn't mention school prayer or gay rights, and only touches on abortion, the Newtoids haven't surrendered the culture war. They've just refined it. Instead of mandating virtue, they give it a tax break. That way they unite social and economic conservatives: What pro-business conservatives see as a tax cut, the social right considers a reward for virtuous parenting. Who could argue with that?

Of course, it turns out that only one form of virtue gets rewarded. The contract provides no support for devoting time to a soup kitchen

instead of parenthood; no support for raising a child you conceive while on public assistance; no support for taking care of your same-sex spouse. If such families are less deserving of relief, that question should be debated. But the Newtoids deny that they're trying to favor some families over others. They claim, on the contrary, that by ending subsidies for new welfare babies they're restoring the economic state of nature: If you have money, you can afford to

To discourage welfare babies, the contract "prohibits AFDC payments and housing benefits to mothers under age 18 who give birth to out-of-wedlock children."

have kids; if you don't, you can't. Rep. Barbara Vucanovich, a Nevada Republican who helped devise the contract's family tax breaks, explains: When taxpayers "have more kids, they don't expect the federal government to reward them."

But it's hard to take this libertarian rhetoric seriously. Vucanovich, after all, does propose to give certain taxpayers just such a reward. The child tax credit is designed to violate the economic state of nature. The whole point is to "help families meet the burden and cost of raising children," according to Brian Gaston, policy director of the House Republican Conference.

Libertarians rejoice that since tax money doesn't belong to the government, returning it doesn't constitute a reward. Vucanovich insists that her bill simply "lets families keep more of their hard-earned dollars to pursue their own version of the American dream, whatever that might be." But again: If your version of the American dream is growing vegetables with your lover on Fire Island, the Newtoids will keep your \$500 instead of returning it. The fact that they make that decision — not you — is the difference between a tax cut and a reward, between less government and more.

The contract's most egregious violation of economic neutrality is its tax credit for adoption. If you get pregnant while on welfare, the Newtoids will no longer give you \$1,000 per year to raise your child. Instead, they'll rebate \$5,000 to a middle-class family to adopt your child. The explicit purpose of this tax credit is

to "expand the pool of parents to include those who would like to adopt but cannot afford it." So, to enjoy the pleasures of parenthood, you won't have to be able to afford children on your own. You'll just have to meet the government's standards.

One of those standards is wealth. If you earn \$13,000 per year, your reward for raising a child is nothing. If you earn \$16,000, you still don't get the full \$500 child tax credit. But if you earn \$70,000, you're entitled to the full reward for each of 10 children.

The equation of parental competence with wealth poses a stark contrast. For taxpayers, the contract prescribes freedom; for paupers, paternalism. Regarding taxpayers, it boasts: "Republicans believe parents know what's best for their children — not the government." The child tax credit affirms "the innate ability of every American to make decisions around the kitchen table without some dictum handed down from Washington." But if you're a welfare mother, the Newtoids trust the government, not you, to make those decisions. That's why they want to replace your cash benefits with block grants "for any purpose the state deems appropriate."

This kind of social engineering does have its defenders. Most famously these days, there's *The Bell Curve* by Charles Murray and Richard J. Herrnstein. Murray and Herrnstein wrote that, by certain statistical measures, "middle-class people are in fact better parents, on average, than working-class people." Why? "It is not good for children to be born either to a single mother or a married couple of low cognitive ability," they argue. And "poor women... are also at the low end of the intelligence distribution." According to this view, the key to progress is twofold: encourage adoptions by the rich and end welfare grants. It is the welfare grants, after all, that are "encouraging the wrong women" to bear children.

Murray and Herrnstein, though, at least are intellectually consistent. They have the integrity to insist that "the government should stop subsidizing births to anyone, rich or poor." That's part of *The Bell Curve* that Gingrich seems to have missed.

William Saletan, political editor of *Regardie's* is the author of a forthcoming book on the politics of abortion. This article first appeared in *The New Republic*.

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Police tampering: How often and where

By ALAN DERSHOWITZ

Why do so many members of the American public refuse to keep an open mind about whether some Los Angeles police officers may have tampered with evidence in the O.J. Simpson case? It is not as if this would be the first time police officials have been guilty of such misconduct. There are numerous reports of police perjury, planting of evidence and tampering with fingerprints, blood and ballistics.

In New York, for example, the FBI has proved that state troopers "faked fingerprint evidence on a routine basis" between 1984 and 1992. What they did was strikingly similar to what the defense has alleged in the Simpson case. "They would take a suspect's fingerprints from either a police station booking card or an object the suspect was known to have touched, and then would claim to have found the fingerprint at the crime scene." A special prosecutor has been appointed to investigate "thousands of cases in all 11 state police barracks," and he says that he "continues to be surprised by the extent of the corruption." But the special prosecutor is running into the "blue wall of silence" — the code by which many police live and under which they will lie to cover up misconduct by their brother officers. Indeed the special prosecutor now believes that most of the corrupt policemen will escape prosecution because some of their colleagues "have done everything they possibly can to frustrate the investigation."

Moreover, the special prosecutors have found that numerous police officials, including supervisors, were involved in either the deliberate planting of fake evidence or in the cover-up. Yet most will escape prosecution and some who were directly involved with the tampering will still "be working for the New York State Police" when the investigation is completed.

Nor is such corruption limited to rural state troopers. Virtually every large city — from Chicago, to Detroit, to New Orleans, to Boston — has experienced epidemics of evidence planting, false testimony, police cover-ups and the like. A few cases in point:

A judge in Detroit after listening on one day to more than a dozen "drowsy" cases — cases in which police falsely claim that an unlawfully searched drug suspect "dropped" the drugs on the ground — chastised the police for not being more "creative," but nonetheless accepted their testimony.

In Washington, D.C., the court of appeals held that "spontaneous apologies" by the accused to the victim would be admissible even in the absence of a Miranda warning. Following the decision, there was an epidemic of "spontaneous apologies" that were believed by trial judges.

In Boston, police routinely made up imaginary informants to justify searches and seizures, and the judges believed them.

In a federal case in New York, a judge credited the testimony of a policeman even though he was caught on tape telling an informant that if he testified truthfully he would run him "over with a truck" and if the informant ever said "that I said it, I'm gonna deny it." The cop then denied saying it, and despite the tape, the judge pretended to believe him.

In Nassau County, a policeman showed a key witness photographs of a suspect before the witness was asked to pick the suspect out of a lineup, and then denied that he had done so.

Police perjury is so routine among policemen that they have their own name for it: "testifying." A recent commission appointed to investigate police perjury in New York City found it to be pervasive and continuing, even after several previous commissions had exposed the problem.

Nor is Los Angeles immune from this contagious and spreading police disease. It is widely accepted that if the Rodney King beating had not been captured on videotape, the police testimony would have been decidedly different from what was seen by millions of people around the world. Indeed, it is widely known that some policemen carry a "spare" knife or "Saturday Night Special" so that they can plant them on or near a suspect if they are accused of using excessive force against an unarmed citizen. In the Simpson case itself the first document presented to the court included deliberate police perjury. Detective Philip Vanatter, in seeking a search warrant, swore that O.J. Simpson's trip to Chicago was unplanned, even though he knew it was planned long in advance of the murders. Judge Ito generously described this perjury as a "reckless disregard for the truth."

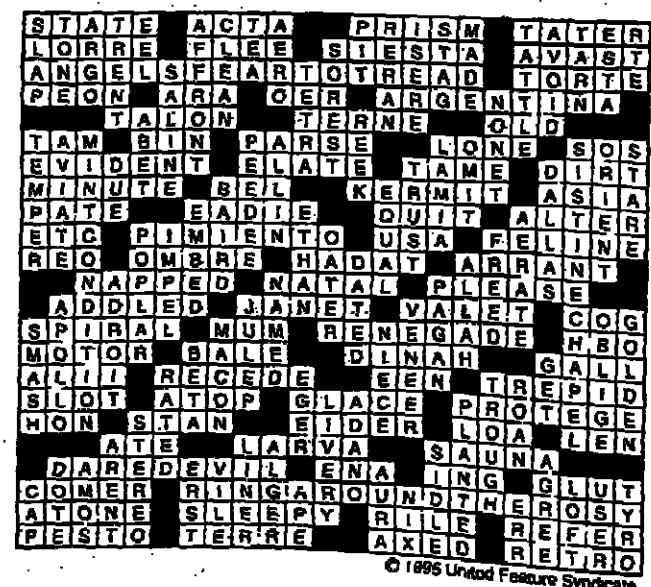
Such disregard characterizes much police testimony in Los Angeles and elsewhere. The American public should keep an open mind about alleged police misconduct in any case, especially in the face of so many documented instances of police tampering over the years. In light of the reality of pervasive police perjury and tampering, the public should not so quickly assume that the O.J. Simpson case is different.

Alan M. Dershowitz is a professor of law at Harvard University. His newest books are "The Advocate's Devil" (Warner Books) and "The Abuse Excuse" (Little, Brown & Company).

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Pictures and models from an exhibition

ON CAMERA

DAVID BRAUNER

NISSIM Samua has owned and operated the Photo Savoy shop in Holon for over 25 years. But the business represents only a small part of his many activities in the world of Israeli photography.

Our meeting took place during the Photomix '95 trade fair, a biennial event, held at Tel Aviv's Exhibition Grounds last month. Samua, the fair's prime organizer, was talking to Yasuo Maeda, deputy general manager of Konica, when we found him.

"What do you think I was saying to him? I was asking to reduce the prices of Konica products exported to Israel," says Samua, who also heads the Israel Association of Photographers and Cameramen.

Uniting 650 photo shops countrywide under the aegis of the Israel National Organization of Commerce, the association has successfully brought down customs duties and prices to the point that most photographic

goods are no more expensive in Israel than in Europe.

The white-haired, gray-suited Samua travels widely, visiting photo fairs, exhibitions and firms abroad, to keep abreast of the latest developments in both the still camera and video fields. He has recently returned from a photographic tour of the former Czechoslovakia, where he interviewed photographers and visited the National Technical Museum in Prague to see its collection of 194 rare cameras.

Samua reports on his Czech trip in detail in the latest issue of the Israeli magazine *The World of Photography and Video*. The superior, high-gloss periodical, comparable to the better photographic publications abroad, is owned and edited by Samua. Established 12 years ago, the bimonthly runs an attractive mix of interviews, historical comment, photo spreads and up-to-date camera reviews for the Hebrew-reading public.



Nissim Samua, organizer of the Photomix Fair, confers with Yasuo Maeda of Konica. (Brauner)

In his personal campaign to make photography, whose international language is English, accessible to the Israeli photographer, Samua has written five Hebrew books and manuals on the history and practice of photography. He has also translated a rare 19th-century volume, *The Pencil of Nature*. Of the original 150 copies, only six have survived.

Over the years Samua has amassed a huge collection of rare cameras, photographic curios and paraphernalia.

Asked how many items he pos-

sessed, he says: "I collect and collect. Do I have time to count?" His collection, some of which is on loan to the Photography Museum at Tel Hai, tops a thousand articles.

A small part of the collection was on show at Photomix '95. Samua highlighted the predecessor of the modern slide projector, the magic lantern.

The light source was an oil-burning wick with a chimney to funnel off the smoke, and the slide panels were individually hand-painted. Another unique item was a photo album with a

built-in music box. When opened, the music played.

The Photomix Fair was established as a fixture in Israel's photographic calendar in 1989. It is held every odd year after Cologne's Photokina, the world's largest photo trade exhibition. Like Photokina, Photomix combines picture exhibitions, lectures, special offers and prizes, sponsored by the 38 exhibitors. Up to 50,000 visitors come over three days.

This year the fair introduced Israel to several new and exciting products, including many com-

puter-related items like scanners and digital imaging packages. Professionals and amateurs alike looked, tested, compared prices and generally enjoyed the hands-on experience.

Among the new cameras on offer was the unusual, Korean-made Samsung ECX1. Winner of three major international prizes, it features an auto-focus 38-140 mm. zoom lens, making it the first compact camera in the world to reach a magnification range of 1:4, plus a close-up facility.

Nikon has come up with an innovative compact camera designed to prevent "camera shake." Called the VR 700 (VR stands for vibration resistant), this model could get sharp pictures on a roller coaster.

Nikon's sophisticated new F-70 auto-focus SLR with color digital display also made its Israeli debut.

Canon's answer to Nikon is the EOS 5. This latest SLR from the Canon auto-focus stable features a focusing system directed by the eye. Wherever the eye looks through the viewer, the camera focuses.

Sharp displayed a \$450 device, rather like a computer modem, that can "telephone" still video images. Simply by setting Sharp's video camera on the device (connected to the telephone), one can relay an image in eight seconds to a similarly mounted video camera at the other end of the line.

The system will be available in Israel in six months' time.

On parting, Samua was asked if minded being dubbed Israel's "Mr. Photography."

Looking genuinely abashed, he said, "No, no, my name is Mr. Samua," pronouncing it *samua*, the Hebrew word for modest.

Winning bites

HEADS 'N' TAILS
D'VORA BEN SHAUL

AT a recent dog show, a Tel Aviv reader writes, "I exhibited my two-year-old keeshond. The judge gave it a very low grade because he said the dog had a 'defective bite.' I do not understand what he meant."

When we speak of a dog's "bite" we refer to the placement of the front teeth — the incisors — and how those of the upper jaw meet those of the lower jaw. There are basically two types of "bite."

The commonest in domestic dogs and the one required for the standard of most breeds is the "scissor bite." This means that the upper incisors are very slightly in front of the lower incisors, thus, when the mouth is closed the two rows of teeth meet in a way that resembles a pair of scissors closing, that is, one blade closing over the other.

But this "scissor bite" is a product of domestication. Wild canines including jackals, wolves and most pariah breeds of dogs have what is called a "plier bite." This means that the two rows of teeth meet exactly one on top of the other just as do the two halves of a pair of pliers when they close.

Canis anis, Akitas and certain other spitz types are required by their breed standard to possess such a bite. In either case, any deviation from the standard for the particular breed is considered a serious fault.

In the wild state, the plier bite was a distinct advantage. Dogs having it can remove splinters or thorns from the coat or the flesh and can pinch off ticks, and even catch and kill fleas. This is hard to accomplish with a "scissor bite" which gives a far less exact grasp of small objects. With domestication, where human companions took over the dog's grooming, this bite was less and less advantageous and breeders started to select for the scissor bite for reasons not clearly understood.

There are other dental deviations that are viewed as faults in breeds. One is the all-too-common tendency to be missing premolars. To a degree, this too is a product of domestication, although it does occur sometimes in wild canines.

It is thought that these dental deviations are caused by changes in the muzzle and jaws which have been selected for by breeders in their pursuit of a certain breed type.

The weight given to these deviations varies from breed to breed and even from judge to judge. Judges are just humans like all of us and, just as they may resist, they carry some personal prejudices into the ring.

The breed standard for the Canis anis allows for Canis anis with black masks, but it would be hard for me to ignore my personal taste and give a championship to a Canis anis with a black mask, since to me one of the principal attractions of the Canis anis is its sloe-eyed look with the striking black "eye liner" they have around their eyes and this is not seen in a black-masked Canis anis.

It also depends on the breed. Since standards for some breeds call dental deviations "serious" or even "disqualifying" faults, while other breed standards class these conditions as "minor faults."

From bare ground kibbutzim created garden riches

THERE AND THEN
SRAYA SHAPIRO

WHEN they were young and lived in tents and wooden shacks, the early kibbutzniks craved a bit of greenery to alleviate the gloom of the bare surroundings in which they had been assigned to settle. Today some of the country's finest parks are to be found in veteran kibbutzim, and this progress represents an eloquent example of how the kibbutz has mutated.

Ruth Enis and Yosef Ben-Arav in *Garden Visions of Kibbutzim* ("Garden and Landscape," Ministry of Defense Publishing House, 216 double-column pages) offer a study that covers the period from 1910, when the first kibbutz, Deganya, was founded, to 1970.

The early kibbutzniks came from middle-class families and through intellectual resolution adopted farming. But manual work was onerous. The basic tenet of their life-style, communal living, bred tensions, and there was an almost daily need to assert the correctness of their ways. The kibbutznik faced malnutrition and yet had to permanently be on the alert to mortal dangers.

Palestine in those days was a desolate country. Its greenery was all but annihilated. Hardly a shadow was to be found as an escape from the exhausting sun. Most of the kibbutzniks were immigrants from Eastern Europe and suffered a trauma living in the mainly arid areas available for settlement. Changing the landscape became a mission.

IT WAS mostly women who took it upon themselves to make their habitat more civilized. Haya Kastelanetz, of Deganya, used to finish her chores in the cow shed or the sewing workshop late at night in order to be free in the

morning to tend to flowers. Her aim, as she once told an interviewer, was to cover the disgraceful nakedness of the soil with trees, bushes, lawns and flowers that would satisfy one's craving for beauty and pleasure.

And there were many like her, growing flowers in their free time the best they could.

Some professional expertise became apparent in the 1930s after Ya'acov Shor, Zvi Bahir and Avraham Aderet persuaded the decision-makers in their kibbutzim to allow them to do some landscaping — in their free time. Shor, of Ashdot Ya'acov, apprenticed in gardening while he worked at the Naharayim power station. "He was a self-made man and an intellectual," Enis and Ben-Arav say. Bahir, of Tel Amal, was responsible for security matters on his kibbutz, which was the first to be established during the "disturbances" of the late 1930s.

Gardening was a half-tolerated hobby. Aderet planted clover between the tar-covered black shacks in which the kibbutzniks lived while waiting for their permanent site at Beit Hashita.

By the 1940s, the legitimacy of planned gardening was no longer challenged. Architects sketching plans for new kibbutzim were asked to design the appropriate greenery and floral elements, with a theoretical justification: Parks, once the prerogative of the rich and the mighty, must be made available to the common man. Another element was security: Shade-giving trees could screen vehicles from enemy planes.

The grass-covered lawn outside the dining hall was not meant for beauty. It was the gathering place where members could rest after work, where children were brought to spend the late afternoon with their parents. Eventually, the large, well-built dining hall became the hub around



A shady thicket of trees provides both practicality and beauty at Kibbutz Tirat Zvi.

which the rest of the planning spread.

But, as kibbutzim came of age, sweeping changes were creating new challenges for the planners. Older members began looking for privacy. Today, the kibbutz society, Enis and Ben-Arav say, "is torn between ideology and pragmatism, with pragmatism on the ascent."

What used to be a group of young people about the same

age, generally coming from the same cultural background, expanded into a large association of people of different ages and different backgrounds.

The avowed aim was still an egalitarian, self-sufficient society. However, industry and services were introduced to help balance the budget.

When he was young, Ya'acov Shor stated, "we wished to forget the town. Town to us meant en-

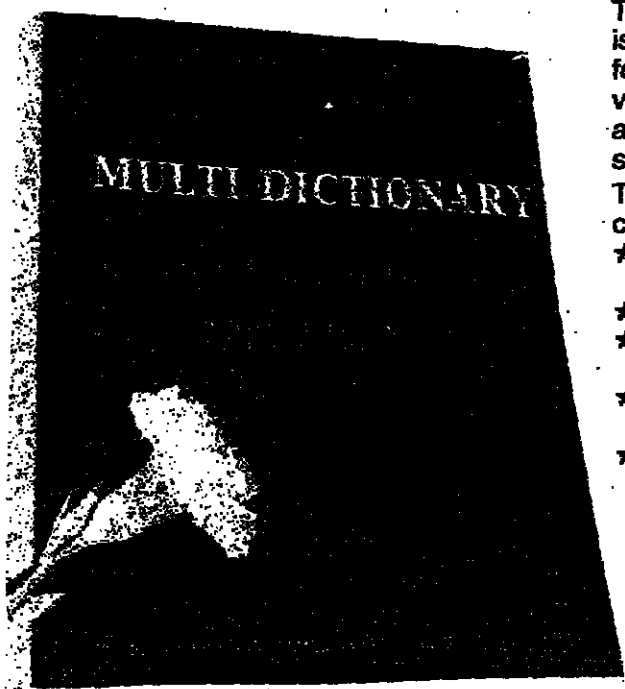
slavement." This was no longer valid.

Urbanization crept in, not only in kibbutzim lying on the outskirts of rapidly expanding towns, but also because "to live in town" became the ambition for many a member living far from urban centers.

In some kibbutzim two- and three-story buildings were constructed for veteran members. The theory behind this change

was that people should live close to one another to maintain the sense of community. However, in many places small bungalows surrounded by trees, bushes and flower beds offer the quality of life the middle-aged and elderly come to seek.

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Shaq suspended in Magic win

ORLANDO (AP) — Nick Anderson and Anfernee Hardaway each scored 27 points as the Orlando Magic overcame the first-quarter ejection of Shaquille O'Neal to beat the Boston Celtics 129-103 Friday night.

O'Neal, who had 38 points in Orlando's 119-117 loss to the Celtics the previous night, was ejected after shoving Boston's Eric Montross less than five minutes into the game.

He was suspended for one game and fined \$5,000.

The Magic outscored the Celtics 33-7 during a 10-minute stretch of the first half to turn a 25-19 deficit into a 52-32 lead.

Hawks 107, Bulls 92

Mookie Blaylock scored 25 points and broke the Atlanta record for 3-pointers in a season, sinking four from long range as host Washington went down to its sixth straight loss.

Blaylock made four-of-10 3-pointers and has hit 122 this season, two more than Dominique Wilkins had in the 1992-93 season. Blaylock scored 10 in the third quarter, when Atlanta built a 21-point lead before coasting to its sixth win in eight games.

Steve Smith scored 27 for the Hawks while Grant Long had 16 points and 15 rebounds.

New 114, Mavericks 104

Rex Walters scored a career-high 17 points and keyed a 16-2 fourth-quarter sprint that carried New Jersey to a home win.

The Mavericks lost their leading scorer, Jim Jackson, in the first quarter after he sprained his left ankle.

Derrick Coleman had 23 points as New Jersey broke a two-game losing streak. Chris Morris added 20 and Armon Gilliam had 17.

Heat 91, Bulls 83

Glen Rice scored six of his 24 points during a 12-4 run in the final four minutes to lift Miami to a home victory.

It was Miami's first win at home against Chicago since a 97-95 win in March 1993. The Heat are 2-10 against Chicago in the Miami Arena.

Billy Owens, who sparked Miami all game with his coast-to-coast drives, finished with 21 points and 12 rebounds. Kevin Willis added 14 points and 11 rebounds while Scottie Pippen paced Chicago with 22 points.

FRIDAY'S RESULTS:

Atlanta 107, Washington 92
Orlando 129, Boston 103
Miami 91, Chicago 83
Indiana 96, Milwaukee 86
San Antonio 114, Detroit 97
Phoenix 118, LA Clippers 106
Portland 114, Utah 101
Seattle 90, Denver 86
LA Lakers 96, Charlotte 93 (OT)

THURSDAY'S RESULTS:

Boston 119, Orlando 117
New York 103, Sacramento 90
Atlanta 110, Dallas 92
Denver 105, Philadelphia 75
Houston 110, Detroit 99

Black cream smeared under the eyes has been a fashion statement in pro sports for eons. Now, there is a new addition to the face.

Breathe Right Nasal Dilator has caught on among football and baseball players, which makes Dan Cohen, chairman of CNS a happy man.

Last fall, Cohen sent the product to NFL team trainers. Philadelphia Eagles trainer Otto Davis recommended it to running back Herschel Walker because he had a bad cold.

"Walker scored a couple of touchdowns that week and that was that," Cohen recalls.

Meant to reduce snoring, the Breathe Right looks like a bandage with two springy strips of plastic running through it. When placed over the nose correctly, it gently pulls the nasal passages open to allow air to flow more freely.

With bated breath, Cohen is waiting for the product — which costs about \$5 for a box of 10 — to catch on among other athletes.

"We're seeing it a lot in hockey because a lot of players have broken their noses and don't breathe as well." (Los Angeles Times)

play the Pittsburgh Penguins.

So it was understandable when Tampa Bay coach Terry Crisp looked toward the heavens and wondered what on earth happened.

"There's got to be a hockey god somewhere, I guess, and he said it's our turn to win," Crisp said after his Lightning stunned the Penguins 4-2 Friday night, ending Pittsburgh's 14-game home unbeaten streak. "This should be, hopefully, a good confidence-builder when you come

Pacers 98, Bucks 86

Dale Davis scored 21 points and Byron Scott 17 as visiting Indiana won its fifth straight game.

The Bucks, who lost three of five games on their homestand, were led by Eric Murdock with 21 points and Glenn Robinson with 18.

Scott hit two free throws for the first points of the fourth quarter to boost the Pacers' lead to 80-68. The closest the Bucks got in the final period was seven.

Spartans 114, Pistons 97

David Robinson scored a game-high 37 points as host San Antonio won its fourth straight.

Sean Elliott had 24 points and Vinny Del Negro added 15 as the Spurs got their 13th victory in 15 games. San Antonio has won 28 of 35 games since Dennis Rodman, who had 21 rebounds, returned to the team on December 10.

Joe Dumars led Detroit with 34 points and Allan Houston added 19.

Suns 118, Clippers 106

Charles Barkley had 25 points and 12 rebounds as host Phoenix ended its

first two-game losing streak of the season.

Phoenix led by as many as 27 points in the third period as the Suns put on sports at the end of the first and second quarters.

Wayman Tisdale scored 18 points and AC Green 16 for the Suns, who are 2-3 since the All-Star break.

Blazers 114, Jazz 101

Rod Strickland scored 30 points and three reserves combined for 55 as Portland won at home.

Terry Porter added 22 points and Jerome Kersey and Otis Thorpe came in to score 18 and 15, respectively.

Karl Malone led the Midwest Division-leading Jazz with 26 points, Jeff Hornacek added 14 and John Stockton 13. It was only the ninth road loss for Utah in 25 games.

Sonics 90, Nuggets 86

Shawn Kemp scored nine of his 13 points in the fourth quarter, including two free throws with 1:26 left, as host Seattle held off Denver.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

Utah W L Pct GB

San Antonio 35 18 .659 1.5

Houston 33 19 .635 4

Denver 30 20 .600 14.5

Dallas 20 31 .392 18.5

Minnesota 13 40 .245 24.5

Pacific Division

Phoenix W L Pct GB

Seattle 41 13 .759 0

LA Lakers 37 15 .712 3

LA Clippers 29 23 .558 11

Sacramento 28 23 .549 11.5

Golden State 16 35 .314 23.5

LA Clippers 9 45 .167 32

Central Division

Charlotte W L Pct GB

Cleveland 34 20 .630 0

Indiana 32 20 .615 1

Atlanta 28 24 .538 5

Chicago 26 26 .500 7

Milwaukee 21 33 .389 13

Detroit 19 34 .358 14.5

Atlantic Division

Orlando W L Pct GB

NY Knicks 41 13 .759 0

New York 34 18 .654 6

Boston 22 31 .415 18.5

New Jersey 22 32 .408 19.5

Miami 20 32 .385 20

Philadelphia 19 36 .345 24

Washington 12 43 .273 31

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division

Orlando W L Pct GB

NY Knicks 41 13 .759 0

New York 34 18 .654 6

Boston 22 31 .415 18.5

New Jersey 22 32 .408 19.5

Miami 20 32 .385 20

Philadelphia 19 36 .345 24

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Pacific Division

Most minor-leaguers won't play against replacements

WEST PALM BEACH (AP) — With less than a week before exhibition games begin, most minor-leaguers are saying they'll refuse to play.

In a random survey of 269 minor leaguers, almost 63 percent said they will do what the Major League Baseball players union asked them to do — boycott spring training games that are deemed replacement games.

About 8 percent said they will play and 29 percent said they remain undecided.

"It's gratifying," union head Donald Fehr said. "It indicates a large degree of knowledge and understanding from these players. And these guys really are the future of the major leagues."

"Our operations committee and the general managers are addressing this situation today, and we'll have a lot of comment on it tomorrow," acting commissioner Bud Selig said Friday night.

Because exhibition games have become an issue, minor leaguers have found themselves in the middle of the strike, which enters its 19th day Friday.

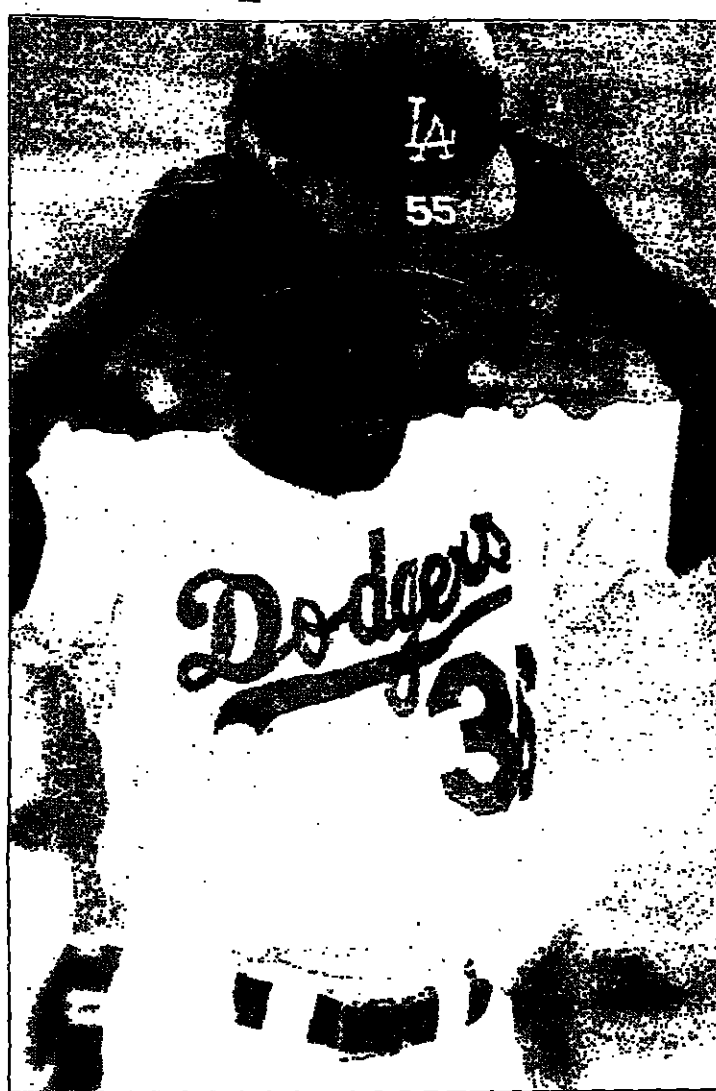
Fehr sent a memo to all major and minor league players and certified agents stating the policy of the players association.

"Major league spring training games in 1995 most definitely will be scrub games because playing those games will require the clubs to replace the major leaguers."

Minor leaguers are not members of the union, but they automatically join once they are placed on a 40-man roster.

"I've been involved in three strikes, I've been playing since 1979. I know what the union has done for me, which is basically nothing," said Tom McCarthy, a 30-year-old right-hander for the Los Angeles Dodgers who has appeared in 40 major league games and plans to play in spring training games.

Most teams have between 25 and 50 replacement players already in camp, and many major league teams have told minor leaguers that they won't be punished.



BUMMING AROUND — Film director Spike Lee dons a batting helmet while taking part in the Los Angeles Dodgers' fantasy camp. Lee is preparing for a film on Jackie Robinson. (AP)

for boycotting the games. Some teams, such as the Cincinnati Reds and Houston Astros, have said minor leaguers who refuse to play may be sent home.

The first exhibition game, between the California Angels and Arizona State, is scheduled for March 1.

In related developments Thursday, the University of Miami said it had canceled an exhibition baseball game against the Florida Marlins.

Miami head baseball coach Jim

Morris expressed regret over cancellation of the game that was to be played at the Marlins' Space Coast Stadium.

"We support Major League Baseball and the Florida Marlins," Morris said in a statement issued by the university. "But we feel with the work stoppage that it's better for our players not to be involved in this game."

"The strike is not beneficial to the game of baseball, therefore we would rather not be associated with it," Morris said.

Lower divisions no match for big boys in State Cup

ORI LEWIS

THIS weekend's soccer action, the eighth round of the State Cup, produced damning evidence of the different standards between the National League and the lower divisions.

Of the 16 matches played, only two produced results with sides from the lower divisions overcoming top opposition. The National League sides, which had a bye until this round, were seeded against opponents from the lower divisions.

The two upsets were both of minor proportions with Hapoel Kfar Sava, themselves State Cup winners of past years beating lowly Betar Tel Aviv, while on Friday, Hapoel Ramat Gan knocked out Zahirim Holon.

The weekend's 16 matches produced 64 goals, 50 of which were scored by National League sides and all were settled within 90 minutes. Only Kfar Sava needed extra time to beat Betar Tel Aviv.

Penalty kicks would have been needed had there been no decisive outcome after 120 minutes.

The next round is scheduled for March 25, although it seems likely that most of the matches will have to be postponed because the national and under-21 sides are playing France on March 28 and 29.

The draw for the last-16 will take place on Friday.

Ironi Rishon 7, Hapoel Ashdod 2 — The highest-scoring result of the afternoon was settled early on. Mark van der Linden and Dudu Heffer, with two goals apiece, led Rishon with Nir Shikva, Nissim Kapasa and Ivan Yermchuk also scoring.

Yossi Zohar and Benny Yitzhak scored Ashdod's consolation goals. Eitan Revivo received a red card, making Ashdod's task of keeping the Rishon tally down even more difficult.

Shikun Hamizrah 1, Hapoel Herzliya 2 — Fourth Division side Shikun Hamizrah put up a brave fight against the National League's cellar dwellers and an upset had looked possible when the hosts went ahead in the 64th minute through a goal by Sasson Cohen.

But any hopes the Rishon suburb side might have had of causing another upset — they had beaten Second

Division runaway leaders Maccabi Jaffa in the previous round — were dashed within a minute when Herzliya equalized through Yaniv Cohen.

Yossi Madar made it 2-1 for Herzliya with an 85th-minute penalty to see the visitors through to the final-16.

Mac. PT 3, Hap. Kfar Kana 2 — The National League side was sailing through this match after first-half goals by Alex Gaydov and two from Kfir Nahum. They then had to save off a late rally by the Kanaites, who closed the gap with two goals from Ronny Malka in the 68th and 79th minutes.

Ahi Nazareth 1, Hap. Beit She'an 4 — The National League side was just too good for the Third Division team. Goals by Nassim Akbaria, Claudio Cahini, Shimon Danan and Nimrod Elbaz kept Beit She'an well on course for victory. Mussa Akbaria scored Nazareth's consolation goal in the last minute.

Hap. Tel Aviv 3, Mac. Kiryat Gat 0 — Hapoel was well in command of this match as Kiryat Gat was never in the running.

Goals by Damian Lukashik in the first half and shots by Tomer Elivahu (74) and Ya'akov Schwartz (78) made sure last season's losing finalists continued into the next round.

Hap. Yeroham 0, Mac. Tel Aviv 3 — A spirited performance by the hosts was simply not enough to stave off defeat by their illustrious opponents from Tel Aviv.

But the southern hospitality obviously had some effect on the visitors. It took 18 minutes before Nir Sivilla put Maccabi in the lead. He struck again only in the 67th minute.

Nir Klingler added the third in the 90th minute.

Maccabi would not have had it all its own way had Yeroham managed to finish off some promising moves, but lack of experience at this level proved to be their downfall.

Zahirim Holon 1, Hap. Ramat Gan 2 — Ramat Gan's Ilan Bahar put Ramat Gan ahead with seven minutes after a Holon defensive blunder in one of the two fixtures played on Friday.

Holon improved in the second half and managed to equalize in the 65th minute as Assaf Tubi slotted home an easy goal.

Ramat Gan secured the upset from the penalty spot in the 82nd minute after Bahar was tripped up in the area by Eli Cohen who was sent off for the infringement.

Shimon Peretz made no mistake with the penalty.

Shimon TA 0, Bnei Yehuda 6 — There was only one possible result in this match as Shimon was nowhere to be seen. Sergei Gerasimetz led the Hatikva Quarter side on its way with two goals as well as being in the thick of the action throughout the match.

Sahar Mizrahi with a penalty, Oren Mukan, Netzar Massubi and Yuri Moroz were Bnei Yehuda's other scorers.

Hap. PT 2, Hap. Lod 1 — Rami Barda gave Petah Tikva a real scare with a superb low shot from the right in the 17th minute that put Lod in the lead.

But Petah Tikva was not to be outdone, and the dependable Carmelo Mishish came to the rescue when he directed a free kick to the head of Moti Kakkon who found the target.

Kakkon was later brought down in the area and Mishish made sure of the victory with a powerful shot which gave the Lod 'keeper no chance.

Mac. Acre 0, Hap. Beersheba 3 — Acre chose Ashkelon as its home base for this match, hoping that Beersheba supporters would turn out in their thousands and thus enrich the northern side's coffers.

There was no joy for Acre, however. Only some 500 spectators turned up for the match and Beersheba raced into the lead with just two minutes gone when Yossi Shoshani put the visitors ahead.

Two more goals in the first half-hour by Amir Avigdor and Marian Kalafetano gave Beersheba a comfortable cushion and they sat out the rest of the match without further incident.

Bet. Tel Aviv 0, Hap. Kfar Sava 1 — The dulllest match of the afternoon came to life in the ninth minute of extra time when Kfar Sava took the lead, stepped up the tempo and almost scored again.

Second Division Kfar Sava, former National League champions and State Cup winners, produced one of the two so-called upsets of the round, but against uninspired and uninspiring opponents like Betar Tel Aviv.

Hap. Marmorek 0, Mac. Netanya 4 — There was only one expected outcome from this match with Netanya's young and talented side giving Marmorek no chance.

Two goals by Ophir Helwani and one each by Yaroslav Aroskevitch and Avishai Janno secured Netanya's berth in the next round.

Hap. Haifa 2, Hakoah RG 1 — Haifa maintained its 100 percent record since Viko Hadad took over as

coach last month. Tal Benin and Hisham Zuabi scored for Haifa.

Avi Shemtov reduced the deficit for Hakoah.

Kiryat Ono 1, Ironi Ashdod 4 — Third Division Kiryat Ono was well out of its depth against the mediocre National League side.

Alon Mizrahi opened Ashdod's account. Thompson Oll added two more before Tal Nir pulled one back for the hosts. Yigal Zilber sealed the scoreline at 4-1 for Ashdod with 67 minutes gone.

Bet. Jerusalem 3, Hap. Bat Yam 1 — A terrible blunder by Bat Yam defender Sergei Taniak while passing back to his 'keeper Giora Annmann saw the ball trickle into the net to give Bat Yam the lead.

Ramen Hazazi made amends five minutes later, on the stroke of half-time, when he leveled the score.

Hazazi struck again early in the second half and Nir Reichman added a third for Betar, whose 3,000-odd fans went home happy after an anxious start.

Hap. Karmiel 1, Mac. Haifa 3 — A true carnival atmosphere in the heart of the Galilee saw Karmiel, one of only two Fourth Division sides in the competition, hold its own for over half an hour against the league champions.

Pini Avraham in the Karmiel goal had his work cut out by the slick Haifa attack, but he performed brilliantly.

Sergei Kandaurov eventually broke the deadlock in the 34th minute with a cracking shot. Wilfred Mugany, Haifa's new Zimbabwean import made it 2-0 to the visitors before Moshe Cohen scored after a superb solo run.

Cohen played for Haifa before going to Karmiel.

Kandaurov added a third goal for Haifa in the 89th minute.

STATE CUP EIGHTH ROUND

Ironi Rishon 7, Hapoel Ashdod 2
Shikun Hamizrah 1, Hapoel Herzliya 2
Mac. PT 3, Hap. Kfar Kana 2
Ahi Nazareth 1, Hap. Beit She'an 4
Hap. Tel Aviv 3, Mac. Kiryat Gat 0
Hap. Yeroham 0, Mac. Tel Aviv 3
Zahirim Holon 1, Hap. Ramat Gan 2
Shimon TA 0, Bnei Yehuda 6
Hap. PT 2, Hap. Lod 1
Mac. Acre 0, Hap. Beersheba 3
Bet. Tel Aviv 0, Hap. Kfar Sava 1
Hap. Haifa 2, Hakoah RG 1
Hap. Karmiel 1, Mac. Haifa 3

This week's winning Sportoto line: 1,2,1,2,2,2,1,2,2,1,2,1

Cibona Zagreb sneaks into European hoops quarter-finals

BRIAN FREEMAN

FIVE of the eight clubs that made the European Club Championships quarter-finals last season have returned to the best-of-three series this year following the 14th and last game of the final pool.

The four quarter-final series will pit Limoges against Scavolini Pesaro, Olympiakos against CSKA Moscow, Panathinaikos against Buckler Bologna and Real Madrid against Cibona Zagreb.

The three newcomers are Pesaro, CSKA and Cibona, which culminated a five-game winning streak with a 79-59 victory over Efes Pilsen to clinch a spot.

The Croatians beat out last season's quarter-finalists Efes Pilsen and Barcelona (which made the Final Four) because of a superior record against them.

The quarter-finals will begin on March 9. The winners will advance to the Final Four on April 11 at Zaragoza, Spain.

Panathinaikos 68, Real Madrid 66
CSKA Moscow 77, Olympiakos 74
PAOK Saloniki 84, Scavolini Pesaro 75
Maccabi Tel Aviv 85, Benetton Treviso 79
Cibona Zagreb 79, Efes Pilsen 59
Barcelona 74, Olympiakos 68
Bologna 81, Barcelona 68
Limoges 63, Bayer Leverkusen 47

European Club Championships Final Standings

Group A	W	L	Pts.
1. Panathinaikos	10	4	24
2. Real Madrid	9	5	23
3. CSKA Moscow	8	6	22
4. Scavolini Pesaro	8	6	23
5. Maccabi Tel Aviv	8	6	22
6. PAOK Saloniki	7	7	19
7. Olympiakos	3	11	17
8. Benetton Treviso	2	12	16

Group B	W	L	Pts.
1. Limoges	10	4	24
2. Cibona	9	5	23
3. CSKA Zagreb	8	6	22
4. Bologna	8	6	22
5. Efes Pilsen	8	6	22
6. Barcelona	4	10	18
7. Bayer Leverkusen	4	10	18
8. Juventus	1	13	15

Heady reward

LONDON (Reuters) — Welsh fly-half Neil Jenkins became the first player in English or Welsh rugby to reach 1,000 league points yesterday.

To mark his achievement, the Pontypriidd goalkicker was presented with 1,000 cans of lager by league sponsors as he left the pitch.

The Sports Pages are edited by Joe Hoffman

Blackburn goes 3 points clear as champions crash

LONDON (Reuters) — Blackburn went three points clear of Manchester United in the Premier League yesterday by drawing 0-0 at home to Norwich while the champions crashed 1-0 at Everton.

Second-placed United, facing up to life without Eric Cantona until next October after the FA extended his ban on Friday, were toppled by a second-half strike from Scottish forward Duncan Ferguson.

Ferguson soared above the defense to head home from a corner in the 58th minute — the first goal.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Blackburn 0, Norwich 0; Coventry 4, Leicester 2; Crystal Palace 0, Arsenal 3; Everton 1, Manchester United 0; Ipswich 2, Southampton 1; Manchester City 0, Leeds 0; Newcastle 3, Aston Villa 1; Sheffield Wednesday 1, Liverpool 2; Tottenham 1, Wimbledon 2; West Ham 1, Chelsea 2.

Blackburn	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	20	10	4	6	35	28	24
Man Utd	20	9	5	6	33	28	23
Newcastle	20	15	9	5	50	31	54
Liverpool	20	14	9	7	48	35	51
Not Forest	20	13	7	9	41	32	45
Leeds	20	11	10	7	35	28	43
Tottenham	20	12	7	11	38	40	43
Arsenal	20	10	10	10	35	32	40
Sheff. Wed.	20	11	6	13	40	49	39
Wimbledon	20	6	10	14	35	50	30
Aston Villa	20	8	11	11	45	53	29
Coventry	20	9	10	11	37	47	37
Chelsea	20	9	9	10	37	38	36
Nottingham	20	8	9	13	27	39	35
Manchester City	20	9	9	11	37	44	36
Swindon	20	6	10	14	30	54	28
Southampton	20	6	13	9	40	48	31
QPR	20	8	7	11	38	45	31
Crystal Palace	20	7	9	14	37	51	30
West Ham	20	8	5	17	37	59	29
Ipswich	20	6	5	19	31	59	23
Leicester	20	4	8	18	31	54	20

Everton had scored against United at home in the league for more than five years.

The start of the match was delayed by 20 minutes because of traffic congestion on a nearby motorway.

Blackburn was frustrated by a battling Norwich side, and the nearest the leaders came to breaking the deadlock was when defender Graeme Le Saux hit a post in the first half.

Manchester United's defeat, only their fifth in 30 league games this season, completed a wretched

run of 24 hours for the club seeking to complete a hat-trick of league titles.

Their influential French striker Cantona was banned from all soccer activities until September 30 and fined £10,000 on Friday for his two-footed attack on a spectator last month. United had already suspended the player until the end of this season.

When the match at Everton finally got under way, Ferguson gave signs of his aerial strength by

DIVISION ONE: Bristol City 2, Luton 2; Notts County 1, Reading 0; Oldham 3, Sheffield United 3; Port Vale 2, Wolves 4; Portsmouth 2, Grimsby 1; Southampton 0, Swindon 0; Watford 0, Tranmere 4; West Bromwich Albion 1, Stoke 3.

Tranmere	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tranmere	33	17	8	8	54	36	59
Sheff. Wed.	33	16	7	7	44	26	55
Sheff. Utd.	33	15	9	9	52	34	54
Wolverhampton	33	14	11	8	36	39	53
Reading	33	14	10	9	43	43	53
Grimsby	33	12	12	9	50	42	48
Watford	33	11	12	11	38	49	47
Barnley	33	11	11	11	41	38	46
Luton	33	12	12	10	45	44	44
Oldham	33	11	10	11	45	43	43
Millwall	33	10	9	14	37	40	40
Portsmouth	33	10	12	12	37	46	40
Stoke	33	10	10	13	32	45	40
Sheff. Utd.	33	10	10	13	32	45	40
Derby	33	10	9	14	35	39	39
Swindon	33	8	15	9	32	31	39
Port Vale	33	10	6	17	42	46	36
West Brom	33	10	7	16	29	42	37
Sheff. Wed.	33	10	8	13	32	36	36
Bristol City	33	9	16	8	42	35	35
Swindon	33	8	13	13	38	43	33
Notts County	33	7	15	11	38	49	29
Burnley	33	6	18	16	28	49	27

Twin bill at State Cup semis tonight

JOEL GORDIN

HOOPS fans can get two for the price of one tonight at a State Cup semifinal doubleheader at Yad Eliyahu.

The main game commences at 9 pm with Maccabi Tel Aviv playing Bnei Herzliya. In the first game, at 6:15 pm, Hapoel Holon takes on Hapoel Jerusalem.

The winners will meet in the finals, also at Yad Eliyahu, on March 22.

Maccabi and Herzliya met last week at the same time, same place in the 22nd round of the National League. Then Maccabi thrashed the visitors by 20 points (95-75).

Maybe this time, Herzliya will come to Tel Aviv with some fighting spirit. The lack of a will to win is what hampered Effie Birnbaum's boys last week.

Herzliya has the squad, to give the champions a tough time. True, Koren Amisha is having a disappointing season, but Rotem Ehrlich is proving an excellent replacement. John Hudson, Paul Thompson, the feisty Desi Baremore and sharpshooter Amir Katz are backed by a strong bench which includes Menahem Atlas, Achya Molcho, Avi Shiller, Aviv Shpinner and veterans Steve Shlechter and Pini Hozze.

It is the curtain-raiser, however, that should supply the thrills. Jerusalem, knowing they have scant

chance to make the league's Final Four, will go on an all-out blitz towards the Cup final. The injured Papi Turgenman is still sorely missed, but Roy Ayal is slowly but surely learning to fill the lanky playmaker's sneakers. Billy Thompson, John Dalzell and Hubert Roberts have all been hot lately, but the key to victory will, as usual, depend on the night's form of the unpredictable Radenko Dovros.

Holon is no pushover. Adi Gordon and Doron Shefa (both formerly on the Jerusalem roster), Tomer Steinhauer, Shelton Jones and David Thirdkill are the five top names in the league; and if they show a semblance of the teamwork they displayed during their "glory days" (six straight wins earlier this season), there'll be long faces in the capital.

Jerusalem's best hope will be to rattle the Holon players into uncoordinated, every-man-for-himself moves — and then take advantage of the resulting chaos. It was this strategy that Maccabi Jerusalem used to conquer Nahum Manbar's "dream team" two weeks ago.

The league's 23rd round will be played over four days. **TOMORROW:** Maccabi Tel Aviv v Hapoel Givat Ze'ev.

Border policeman stabbed to death in nightclub brawl

AN off-duty border policeman was stabbed to death during a fight at a Petah Tikva discotheque early yesterday morning.

Sharon Hajaj, 21, a Petah Tikva resident, was standing near the bouncer when an argument broke out with a man who was refused entry to the Nexus club.

During the ensuing fracas, Hajaj was stabbed by the man once in the heart.

He was taken to Beilinson Hospital but died shortly after

RAINE MARCUS

from his wounds.

The suspect, whose identity is known to police, fled the scene and last night a massive hunt was under way for him.

In another stabbing incident in Holon late Friday night, a 30-year-old discotheque bouncer was attacked after refusing entry to four men.

One of the men stabbed him in the ear, and the four fled.

On Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Street, a kiosk owner, 41, was stabbed in his stomach by four men late Friday night following an argument over the price of sunflower seeds.

The victim, Haim Erez, was taken to Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital suffering from moderate injuries.

Hayarkon police arrested the four, who are expected to appear in court for a remand hearing this morning.



Kibbutz Yakim member Moshe Shmueli, 78, has been giving cows pedicures for 40 years, but had to stop after undergoing surgery for the insertion of artificial joints, which made standing for long periods very painful. Determined to return to his cows, he asked Yad Sarah to help him, and the organization developed a chair which allows him to work while half-standing. (Sarit Uziel)

'Father of the wounded' remembered by leaders and those he helped

THE nation's leaders gathered last week to pay tribute to "Father of the Wounded" Simha Holzberg, to mark a year since his death.

The tribute was organized by the Simha Foundation, which is continuing the work done by Holzberg in providing support for wounded and disabled IDF soldiers.

The foundation itself is headed by such veterans. President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister and Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Knesset Speaker Shevah Weiss, Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Shahak, ministers, MKs, Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo, and others gathered to pay tribute to Holzberg.

"I don't know a person who so devoted his entire being and abilities to that group that went through the war, and is fighting the battle that comes after the war," said Rabin. "That battle, day by day and month by month, is more difficult than the war in which you were wounded."

"He knew how to offer a hand, to help, to organize bris and weddings, help the newborn and find cures," he said. "On the day of his funeral, I said that he was an IDF soldier whose ID number was his phone number, which anyone could call."

"His weapons were his smile, his attention, his

participation, and his ability to make one feel that he cared. His ammunition was his candies, chocolate, and drinks. No one who was ever helped by Simha can forget him."

"Only a person whose heart and soul are full of love can do what Simha did," said Weizman. "He won't be remembered for the chocolate he distributed to the wounded, but for the understanding, love and encouragement."

"I saw Simha go into the room of a wounded soldier whose whole world had crumbled, and he perked up and smiled when Simha encouraged him. Those who are continuing his work will also go from hospital to hospital, and house to house to heal the spirit of the wounded."

Shahak called Holzberg a one-man institution, noting it would have been necessary to set up an entire organization with vehicles and offices to accomplish what he did. "There was so much spirit in one body. Even if he experienced tough times and despite his loneliness, one never saw him sad - he was full of love. His memory lives on today in the hearts of many who love him."

Dozens of local entertainers also performed, and a group of disabled soldiers read an appreciation of Holzberg written by Haim Hefer. (Itim)

Chemical leak injures 4

A PLANT watchman, a firefighter, and two passersby were overcome by poisonous fumes leaking from two giant tanks at the Baret factory in Bnei Brak Friday night. One of the tanks contained hydrochloric acid, the other chlorine.

They were taken to Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva, where they are in good condition.

Police are investigating the possibility the two tanks were sabotaged. Suspicions were aroused during a search for the source of the leaks, when members of the Environment Ministry's Dangerous Substances Unit found that the valves of the tanks had been broken off.

As the leaking gas spread in a cloud over the Gush Dan area, police and fire department offices

were inundated with calls from anxious residents complaining of the strong smell. One woman at the nearby Ayalon Mall in Ramat Gan complained of itching skin and dizziness.

In response to calls from parents whose children were attending films there, police said no one already inside the mall was in danger, and they would prevent those inside from leaving until the cloud of poisonous gas had dispersed.

Until the source of the leak was found and sealed, police closed off Bnei Brak's entire industrial zone and the approach roads to the mall. The roads were reopened by 2 a.m. yesterday. Bnei Brak firefighters said about 1,000 liters of poisonous liquid leaked from the tanks. (Itim)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Steinem ill, cancels appearance

Gloria Steinem, the celebrated feminist who was to be guest speaker here for the Israel Women's Network decennial celebration, has had to cancel her trip because of health reasons. Steinem will be replaced at the celebration on March 8, International Woman's Day, by another co-founder of the feminist Ms. magazine, Letty Cottin Pogrebin who is known for her many books, including *Deborah, Golda and Me*. Pogrebin, a past president of Americans for Peace Now, will speak at the Tel Aviv Cinematheque and also in Jerusalem at the Van Leer Institute.

King Hassan to visit US

Morocco's King Hassan is to visit Washington next month to hold political discussions with US President Bill Clinton.

Moroccan diplomatic sources said that as part of preparations for the visit, Andre Azoulay, the King's economic adviser, has recently visited Washington and met with senior administration officials. Hassan is likely to raise the issue of Jerusalem in his discussions. Shmuel Segev

Two arrested for stealing Agency checks

Two men were arrested Friday on suspicion of belonging to a gang that broke into Jewish Agency offices in Tel Aviv, stole checks worth millions of shekels, and cashed in NIS1.5m. worth so far.

Gideon Kadosh, 28, of Tel Aviv, who owns a stall in the Jaffa flea market, and his nephew, Roni Kadosh, 35, of Rishon LeZion were remanded for seven days. Police told the court additional suspects would be arrested. The two are not cooperating with investigators. Police said Kadosh was found in possession of one of the stolen checks, for NIS 500,000. Itim

Doctor held for writing illegal prescriptions

A Haifa doctor was remanded Friday in Haifa Magistrate's Court on suspicion of dealing in dangerous drugs, and writing prescriptions for policemen and other people who were not under his care.

Police told the court Dr. Adam Weisel, 50, had prescribed morphine and other drugs in exchange for NIS 30 per prescription. They said Weisel had prescribed drugs for policemen who had never been to his office.

Weisel's lawyer asked that his name not be published for fear it would dishonor him and hurt his business, but Judge Rachel Hozza ordered him remanded. Itim

'No insurance payoffs to traffic violators'

All long-distance trucks will be required to have two drivers and a sleeping compartment to enable them to take compulsory turns driving and resting, under an urgent motion submitted last night by Likud MK Uriel Weinstein.

Insurance companies would not pay compensation for accidents proven to have been caused by sleepy truckers in violation of the proposed law, Weinstein said.

Pupil allegedly plants dummy bomb

A 15-year-old pupil is suspected of planting a dummy bomb in a schoolyard last week which forced the evacuation of the Azor school, near Tel Aviv.

Police sappers were called in to detonate the suspicious object, which was believed to be a genuine bomb. After security personnel determined it was a phony they began investigating the pupils to determine who pulled the prank. Pupils gave information to police which led them to the 15-year-old suspect, who confessed to preparing the dummy bomb. Itim

Third escaped prisoner caught

The third prisoner who escaped from the Tel Aviv District Court two weeks ago was caught on Friday at his aunt's house in Beersheba. Nissim Bijawi was caught after police received a tip from a resident.

Police arrived at the home early Friday morning, broke the door down and found the escaped prisoner sleeping. He was turned over to Tel Aviv police yesterday. Amir Rozenblit

Two prisoners escape Lod police lockup

Two prisoners - Amir Nisafra of Lod and Nasser Sliman of Hebron - escaped yesterday from the Lod police lockup.

Nisafra, serving a six-month sentence for drug offenses, and Sliman, arrested last week on suspicion of burglary, saved through the bars of their cell and fled through a ventilator shaft. As of last night they were still at large. Itim

Four-year-old girl claims she was abused

A kindergarten revealed to her teacher last week that her mother's friend had abused her and locked her in a closet while she used drugs. The woman was remanded for six days on Friday by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

The teacher brought the four-year-old girl to police on Thursday to report the incident. The girl, who had bruises on her body and face, told police that her mother's friend, who lives in her home, would regularly beat and punish her as would other neighbors in her building. Itim

Finnish trade minister arrives

Finland's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Trade Minister Petri Salolainen will arrive here today for a four-day visit as guest of Industry and Trade Minister Micha Harish.

Accompanying Salolainen will be a group of Finnish businessmen primarily from the energy, telecommunications, and hi-tech sectors. Tomorrow, a seminar on Israel-Finland trade will be held at the Israel Manufacturers Association.

Protesters march to save Dora wetlands from development

SOME 4,500 people held a march along the Dora iris reserve and winter wetlands in Netanya Friday to protest the municipality's plan to build a housing development there.

The march was organized by the Society for the Preservation of Nature in Israel and the Nature Reserves Authority, and drew students and others worried the development would destroy the wetlands, one of only two such sites remaining in the country.

Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, who participated, told Netanya residents that everything should be done to protect the site, saying the building would destroy it.

"As we fought to protect the Ashdod dunes, we will not give up here, and will wage a real fight to maintain the wetlands...The area around Dora should be protected as a nature reserve, to be administered by the Nature Reserves Authority, and steps should be taken to declare it a nature reserve, which will make it impossible to build here," Sarid said.

The 80-dunam wetlands are a well-known winter attraction made up of what remains of dozens of ponds that existed there years ago, but which were destroyed during construction. They also draw a large variety of wildlife. (Itim)

Gangster held for buying gun for criminal use

GAD "Shatz" Plum, a notorious underworld figure during the 1980s, was remanded for five days by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court Friday on suspicion of buying a revolver from another man for criminal purposes.

Plum returned from Germany last October, where he served a 13-year prison term for murder. On his return he announced he was "going straight."

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But police believe differently, and sources said he readjusted quickly to criminal life here. He is continually under police surveillance, they said.

Around a month ago, Plum was arrested for allegedly operating an illegal casino in Tel Aviv. On Thursday night he was arrested together with Asher Zada and

Oriel Hazut in the latter's hotel room in Bat Yam. Police found a revolver in the room, apparently bought by Hazut in the US 10 years ago, but which is not registered here.

Police said in court they have information that the revolver was to be used for criminal offenses. Plum denied all allegations, arguing he went to the hotel to inquire about renting a room.

Ministry seeks to make pens childproof

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry's representative in the Israel Standards Institute will strongly recommend requiring stick pens and markers to have holes in their caps, to reduce the danger to babies and children who accidentally swallow them.

The idea of requiring manufacturers and importers to make pen caps only with holes was raised by Prof.

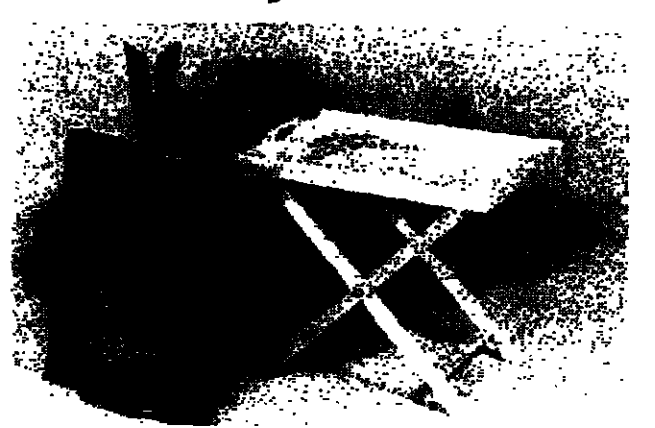
Zohar Barzilai, chief of pediatrics at Sheba Hospital at Tel Hashomer. He noted that if the cap is swallowed and gets stuck in the trachea, holes at the end would allow air to pass through and prevent suffocation.

Barzilai told *The Jerusalem Post* he had no statistics on how many

such cases there are each year, but he himself had seen several. Just three days ago, an 11-year-old Netanya girl who swallowed a pen cap while playing was rushed to Laniado Hospital and then to Sheba, where surgeons removed the piece of plastic from her lung with a bronchoscope. Getting such an item stuck in the trachea can cause quick death, while if it reaches the lung, the risk of a fatality is much less.

The pediatrician recommended that all schools and kindergartens devote a few minutes to warning about the dangers of putting pens and markers and their parts into the mouth.

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Wed. 29.2.95, 8:30 p.m. Haifa: Series C Haifa Aud.

Concert no. 5

Thu. 23.2.95, 8:30 p.m. Tel Aviv: Series A Tel Aviv Aud.

Fri. 24.2.95, 8:30 p.m. Tel Aviv: Series B Tel Aviv Aud.

Sat. 25.2.95, 8:30 p.m. Tel Aviv: Series C Tel Aviv Aud.

Concert no. 6

Sun. 26.2.95, 8:30 p.m. Tel Aviv: Series A Tel Aviv Aud.